

## RASH BEHARI BOSE

As a schoolboy and a young man he rebelled against the unfair accusation that the people of Bengal lacked courage. Determined to prove otherwise Rash Behari Bose worked to free India from British rule for 40 years. Wanted by the British police his life was one of escapades and adventure. The Indian National Army that he founded grew into a formidable force of 40,000 soldiers. He was rightly called the Father of the Indian Independence Movement in East Asia.

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# RASH BEHARI BOSE

INDEPENDENT INDIA WAS HIS LIFE-LONG DREAM

Vol 721 | ₹50



ISBN 81-8482-194-8

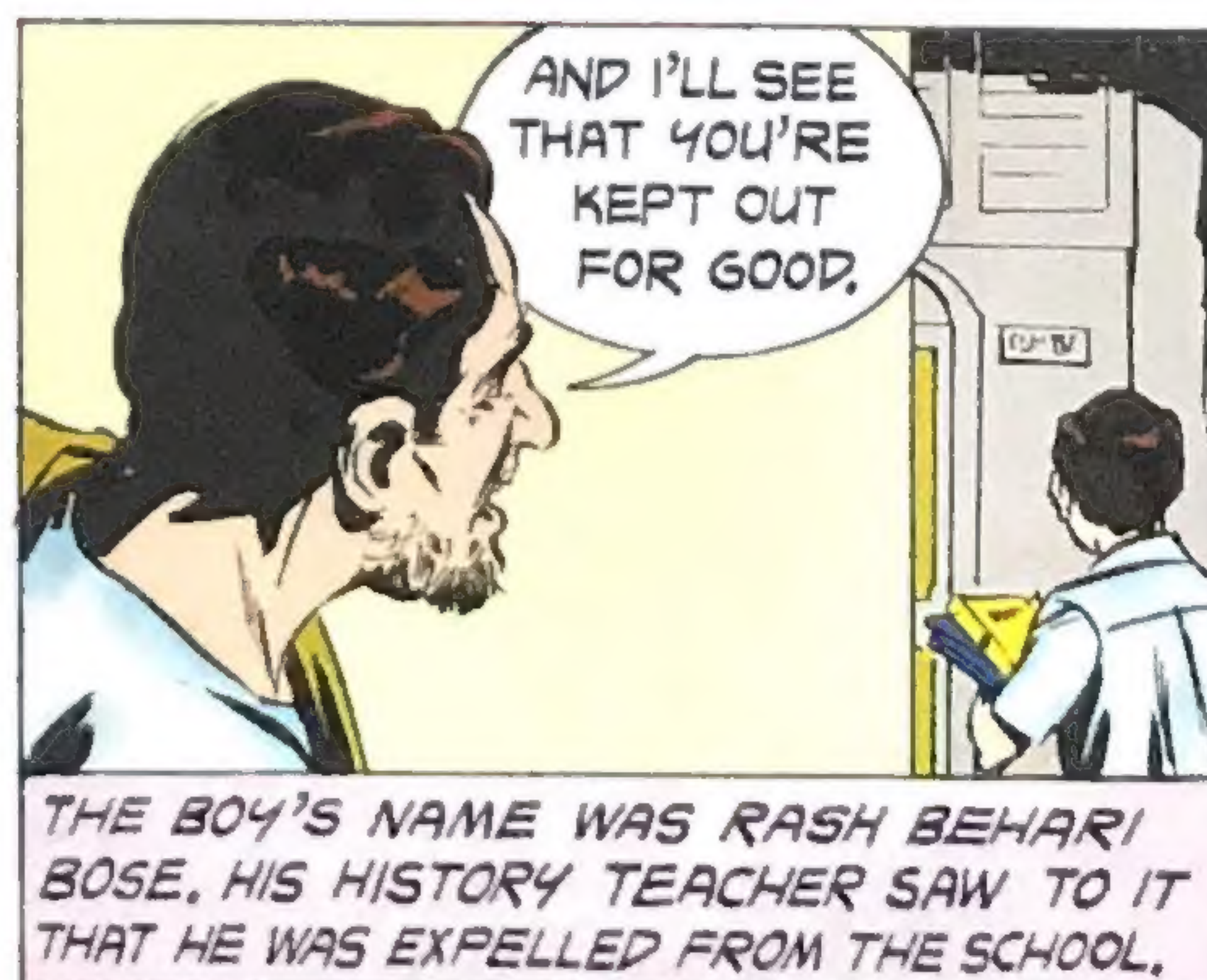


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# RASH BEHARI BOSE

AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY, A BOY IN THE NINTH STANDARD OF DUPLIX SCHOOL AT CHANDERNAGORE, SAT THROUGH HIS HISTORY CLASS RESENTING EVERY WORD HIS TEACHER UTTERED.

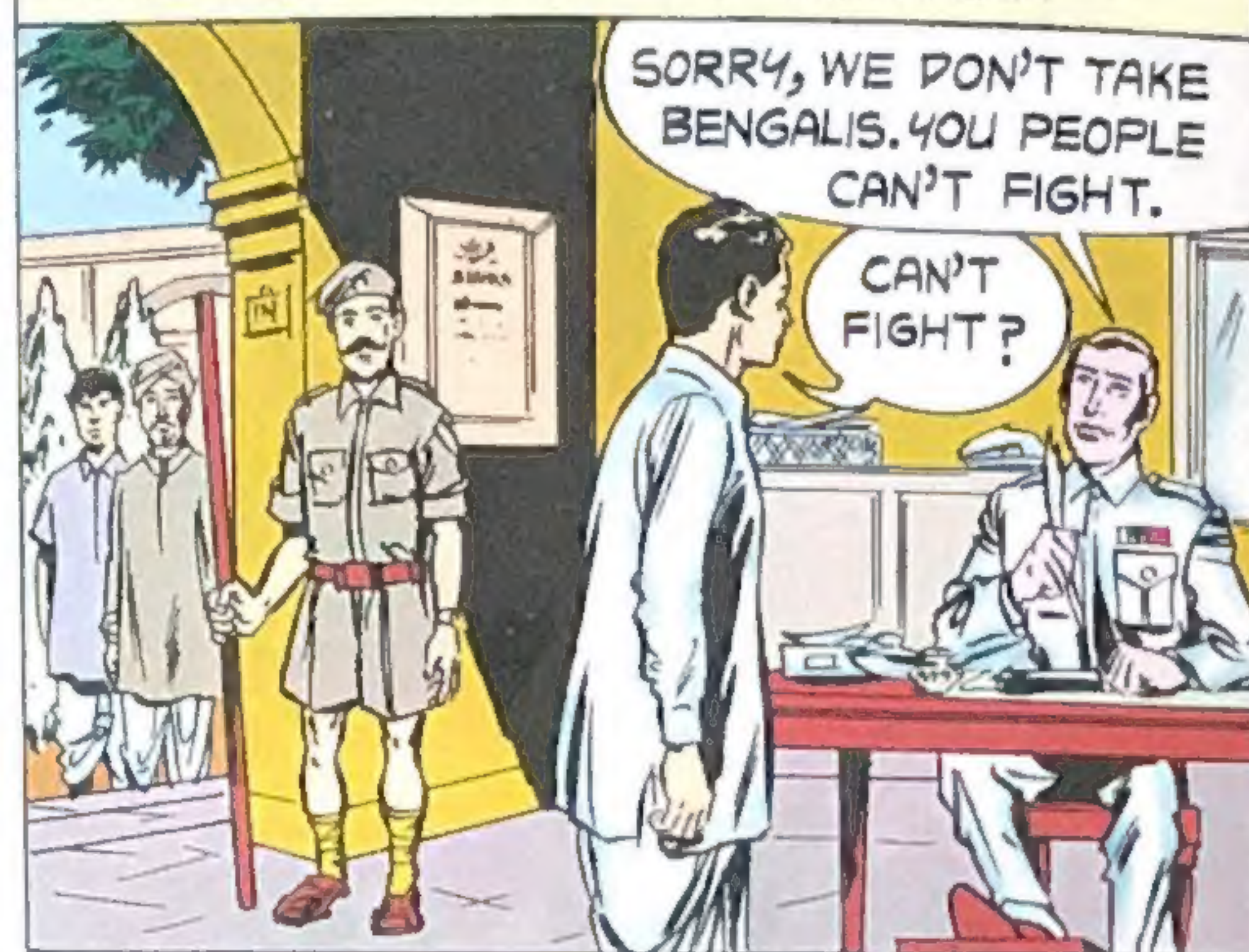




SOMETIME LATER, THE BOY RAN AWAY FROM HOME...



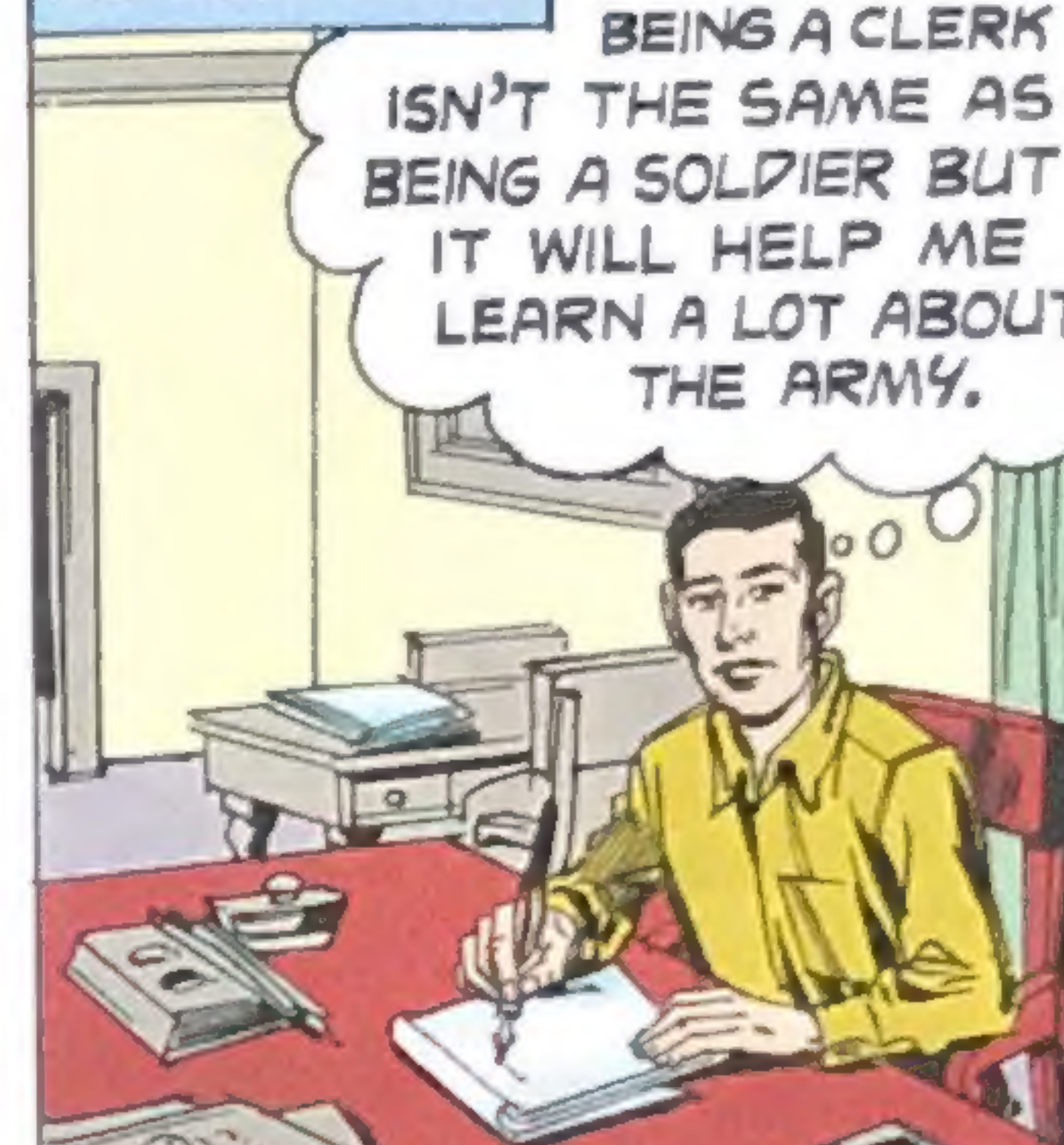
...AND TRIED TO JOIN THE ARMY. BUT —



HE WENT TO FORT WILLIAM IN CALCUTTA, TO TRY FOR A JOB THERE.



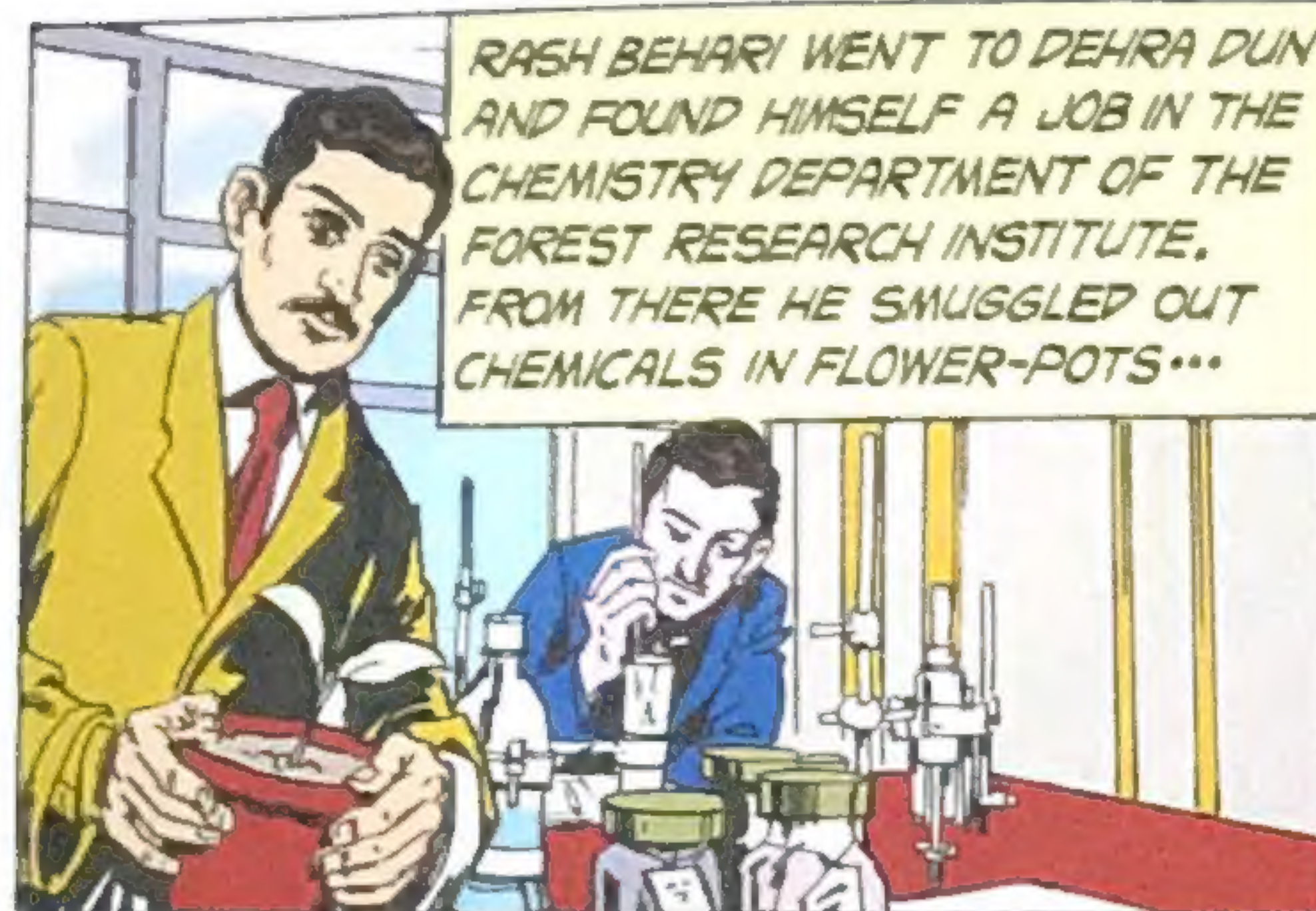
HE GOT A JOB.



A FEW WEEKS LATER HE WAS SUMMONED BY THE COMMANDING OFFICER.







RASH BEHARI WENT TO DEHRA DUN AND FOUND HIMSELF A JOB IN THE CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT OF THE FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE. FROM THERE HE SMUGGLED OUT CHEMICALS IN FLOWER-POTS...

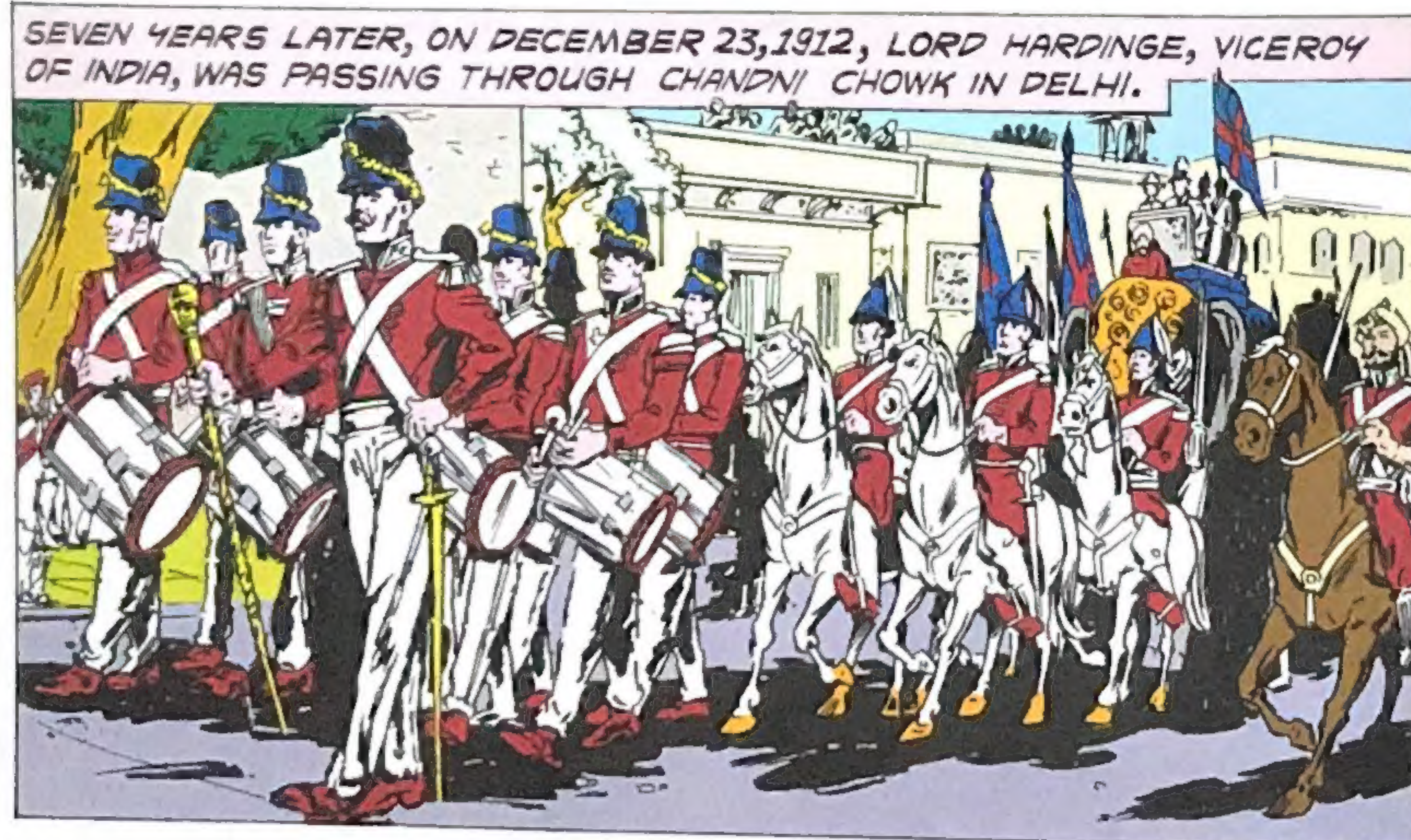


...AND IN HIS SPARE TIME TAUGHT HIMSELF HOW TO MAKE BOMBS...

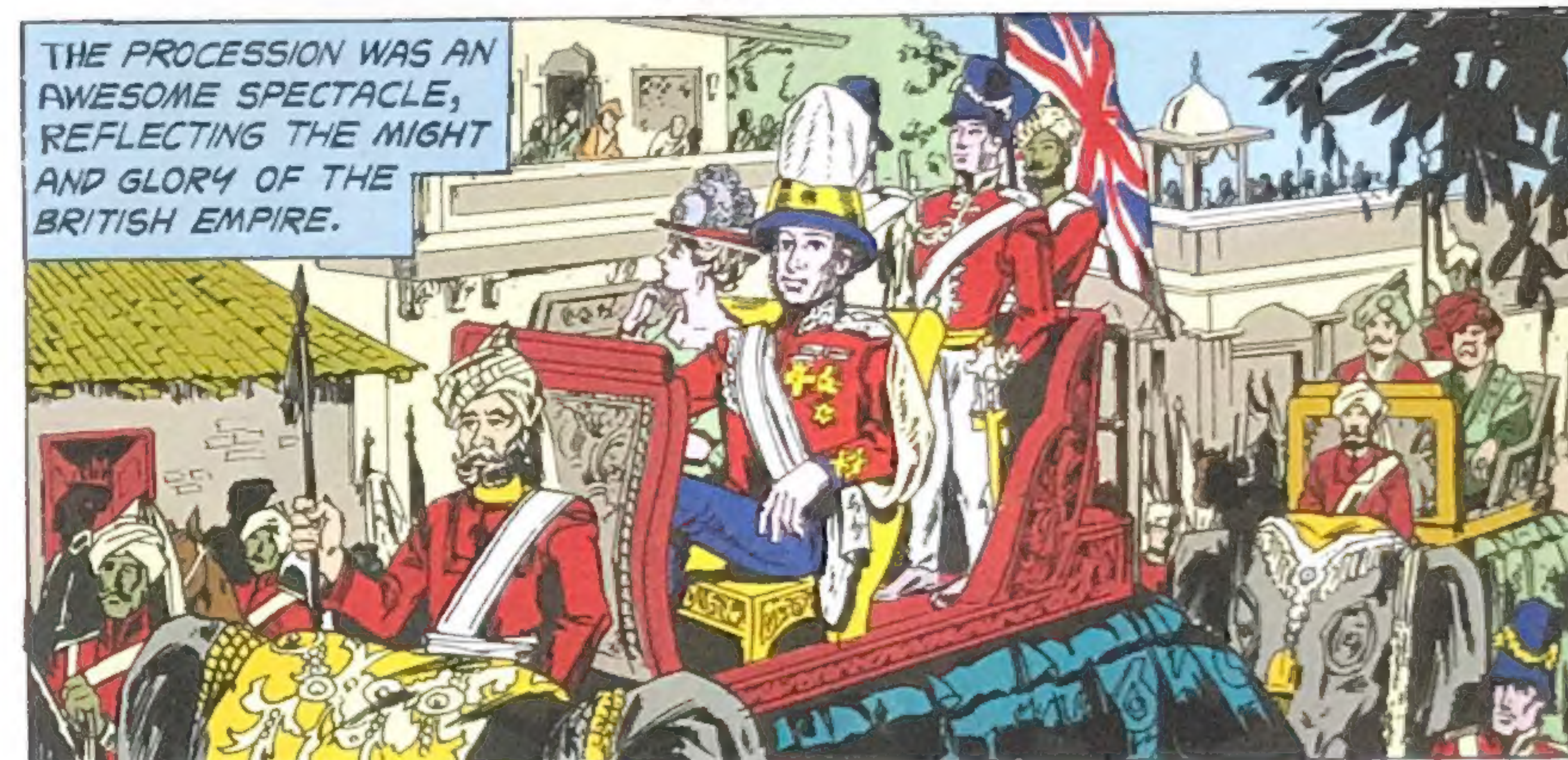


...AND USE FIREARMS.

GRADUALLY, HE BEGAN TO TRAIN OTHER YOUNG MEN TOO. RASH BEHARI WAS DETERMINED TO SHOW THAT BENGALIS COULD BE COURAGEOUS FIGHTERS EVEN AGAINST THE MIGHTY BRITISH.



SEVEN YEARS LATER, ON DECEMBER 23, 1912, LORD HARDINGE, VICEROY OF INDIA, WAS PASSING THROUGH CHANDNI CHOWK IN DELHI.



THE PROCESSION WAS AN AWESOME SPECTACLE, REFLECTING THE MIGHT AND GLORY OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

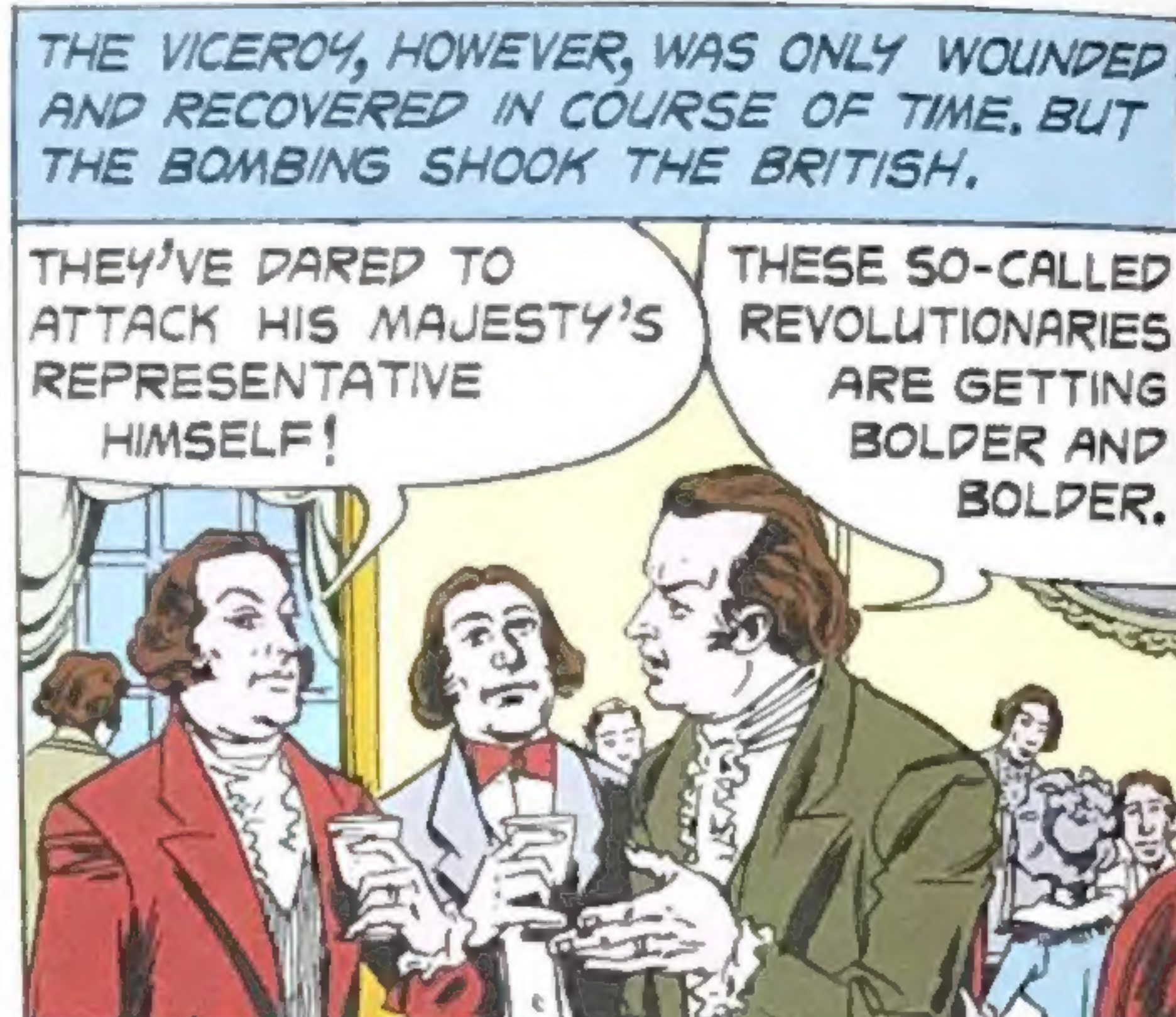
RAJAHS AND NAWABS FLANKED THE DIGNITARY. GUNS BOOMED IN SALUTE. AND ABOVE THEM ALL FLUTTERED THE UNION JACK.







MY GOD!  
THE VICEROY IS  
KILLED!



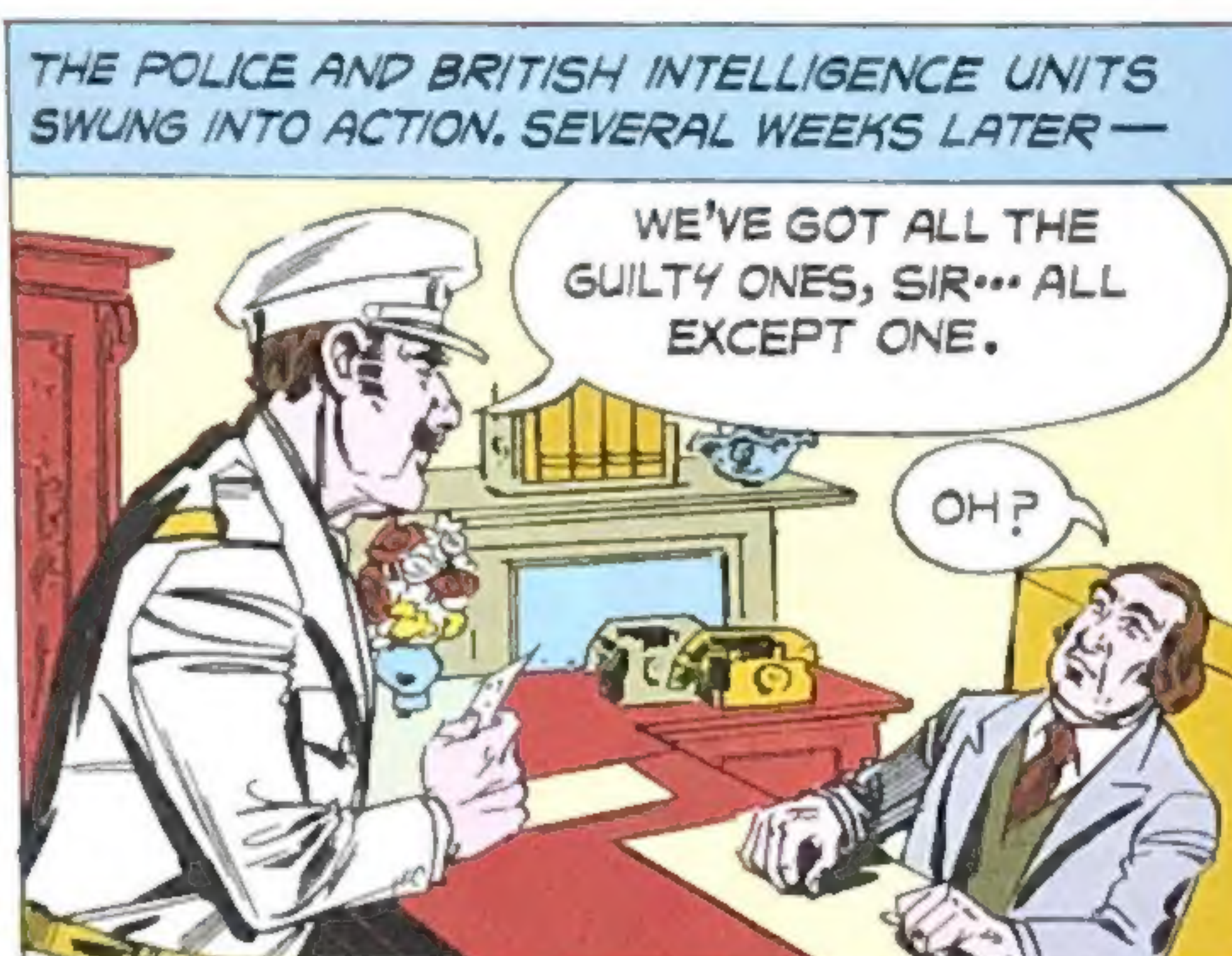
THE VICEROY, HOWEVER, WAS ONLY WOUNDED  
AND RECOVERED IN COURSE OF TIME. BUT  
THE BOMBING SHOOK THE BRITISH.

THEY'VE DARED TO  
ATTACK HIS MAJESTY'S  
REPRESENTATIVE  
HIMSELF!

THESE SO-CALLED  
REVOLUTIONARIES  
ARE GETTING  
BOLDER AND  
BOLDER.



THE CULPRIT MUST  
BE CAUGHT AND  
HANGED!



THE POLICE AND BRITISH INTELLIGENCE UNITS  
SWUNG INTO ACTION. SEVERAL WEEKS LATER —

WE'VE GOT ALL THE  
GUILTY ONES, SIR... ALL  
EXCEPT ONE.

OH?



WHO IS THIS ONE WHO  
GOT AWAY?

A BENGALI...  
RASH BEHARI  
BOSE.

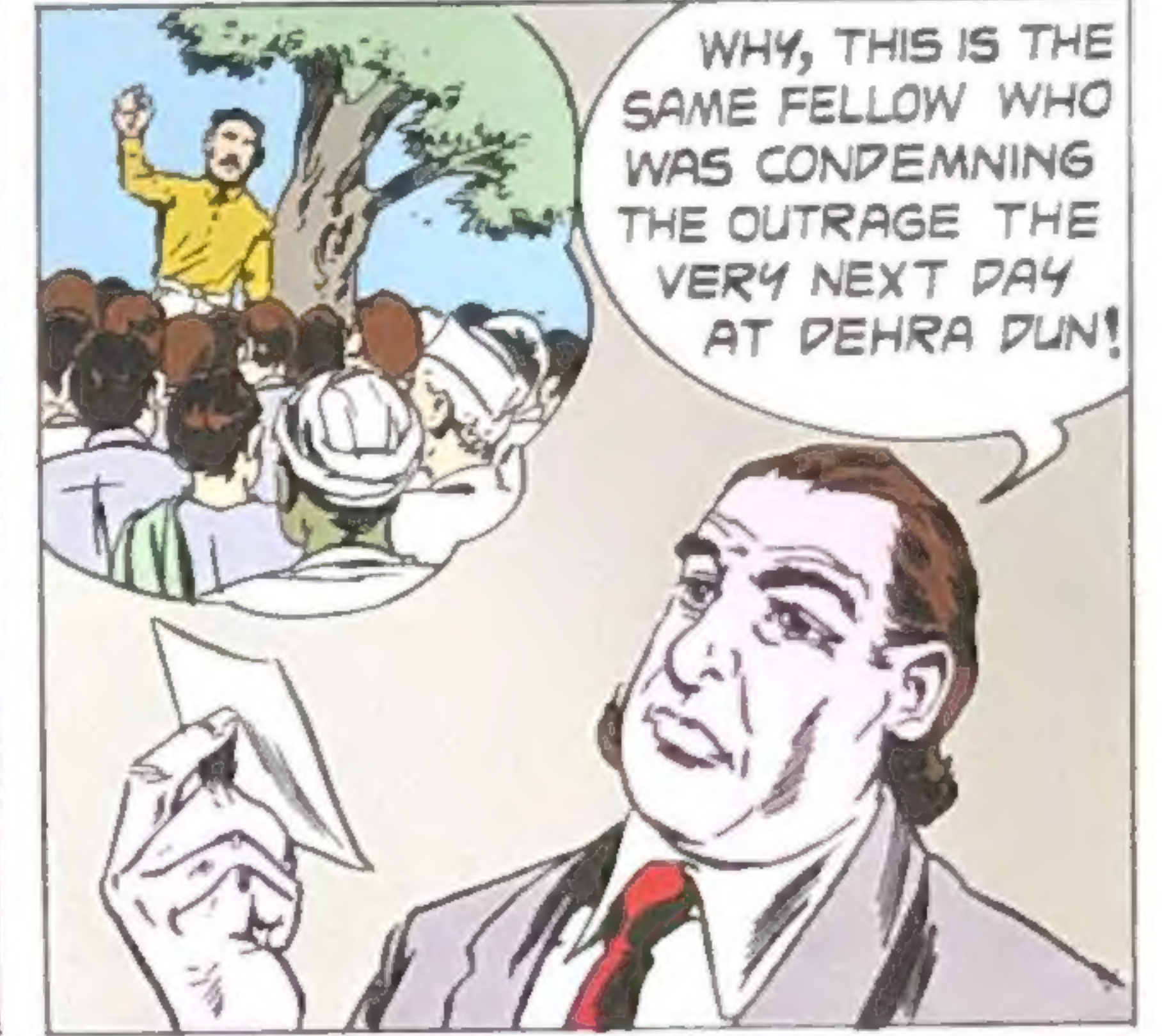


HE IS TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS  
OLD. WE SUSPECT THAT HE  
PLOTTED THE WHOLE  
THING.



IS THIS THE MAN?  
GOOD HEAVENS!

WHAT IS  
IT, SIR?



WHY, THIS IS THE  
SAME FELLOW WHO  
WAS CONDEMNING  
THE OUTRAGE THE  
VERY NEXT DAY  
AT DEHRA DUN!



I WAS THERE  
AND I THOUGHT  
TO MYSELF WHAT  
A LOYAL FRIEND  
WE HAVE  
HERE.



HE MUST HAVE RUSHED  
TO DEHRA DUN AFTER  
THROWING THE BOMB,  
SIR!



WE BELIEVE THAT HE  
WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR  
ANOTHER BOMBING  
OUTRAGE AT  
LAHORE.

HE MUST  
BE CAUGHT  
AT ONCE!



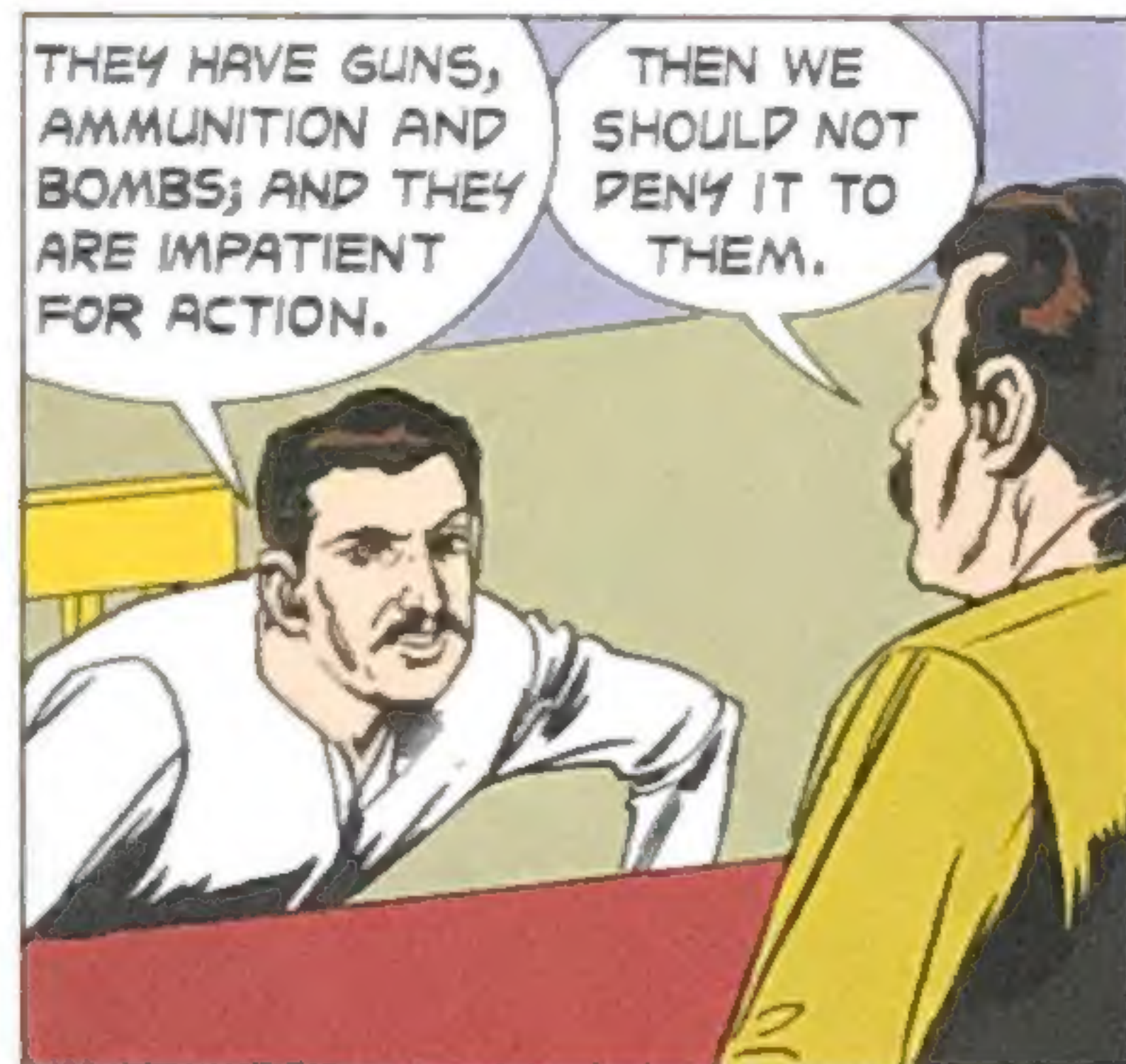
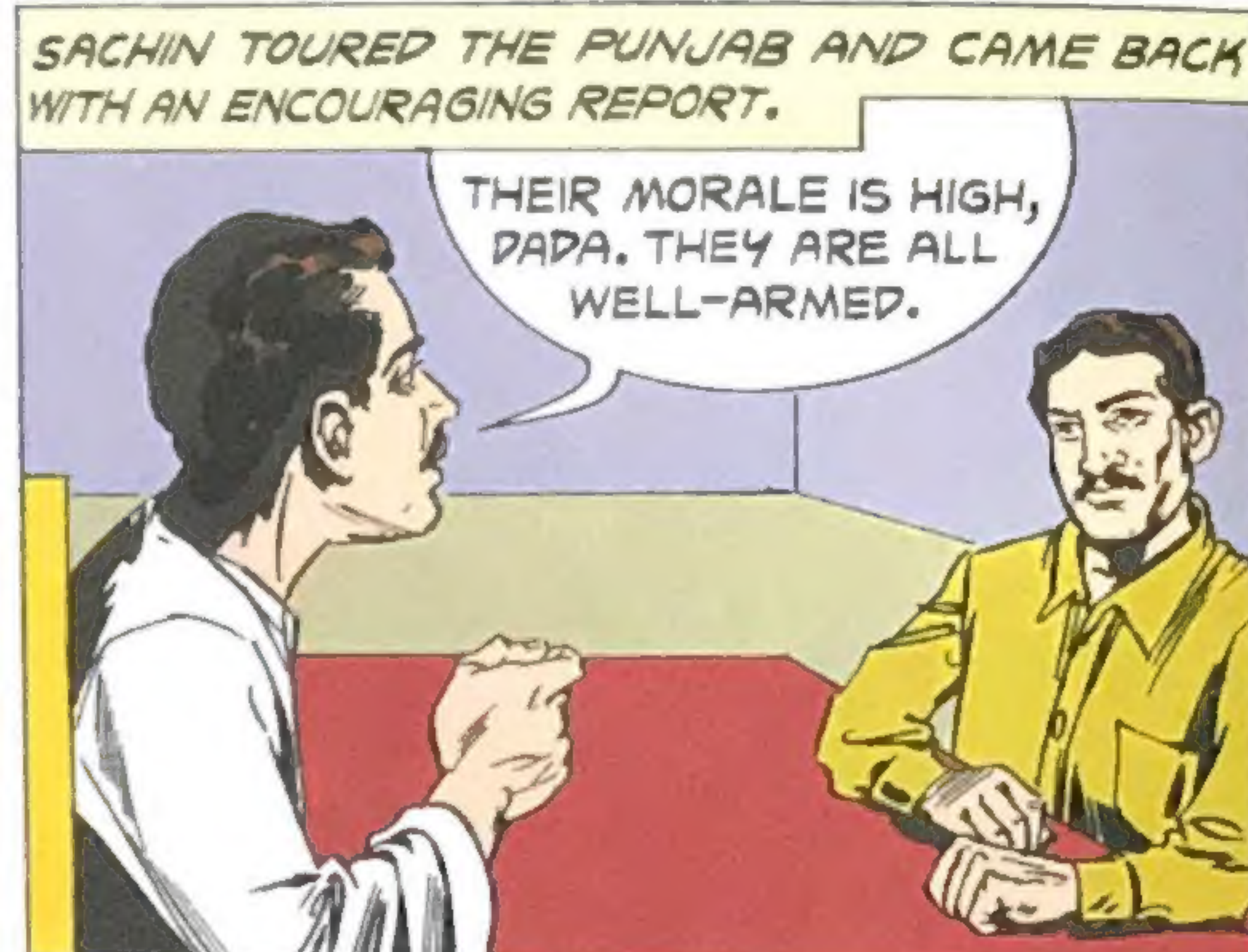
OFFER A GENEROUS  
REWARD FOR HIS  
CAPTURE— AND  
GET HIM!

YES,  
SIR.





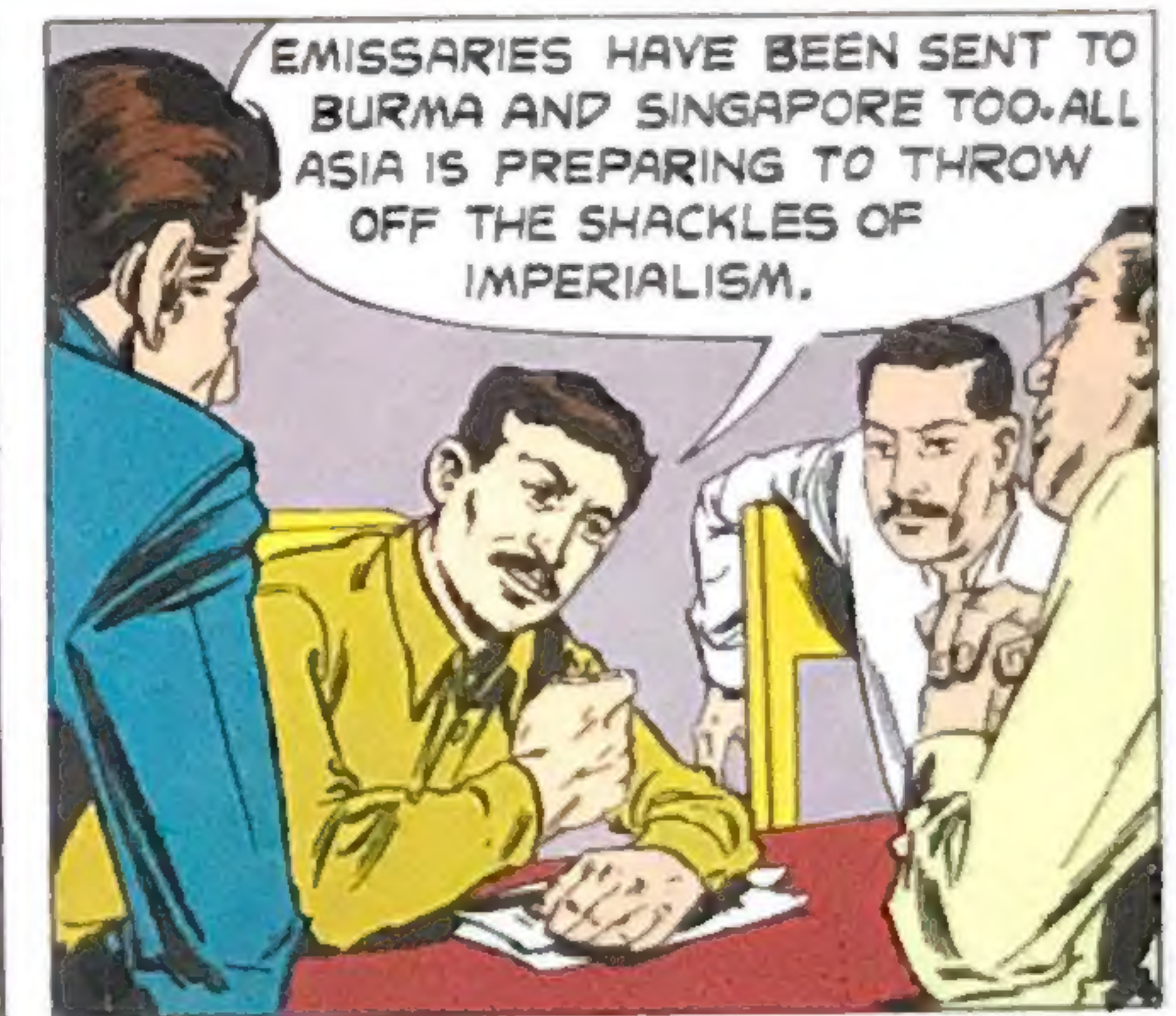




RASH BEHARI VISITED SEVERAL CANTONMENTS DISGUISED AS AN ARMY OFFICER. THE RESPONSE WAS IMMEDIATE AND ENTHUSIASTIC.



RASH BEHARI AND HIS COMRADES PLANNED A MASS UPRISING IN THE NORTH-EAST ON FEBRUARY 21, 1915.

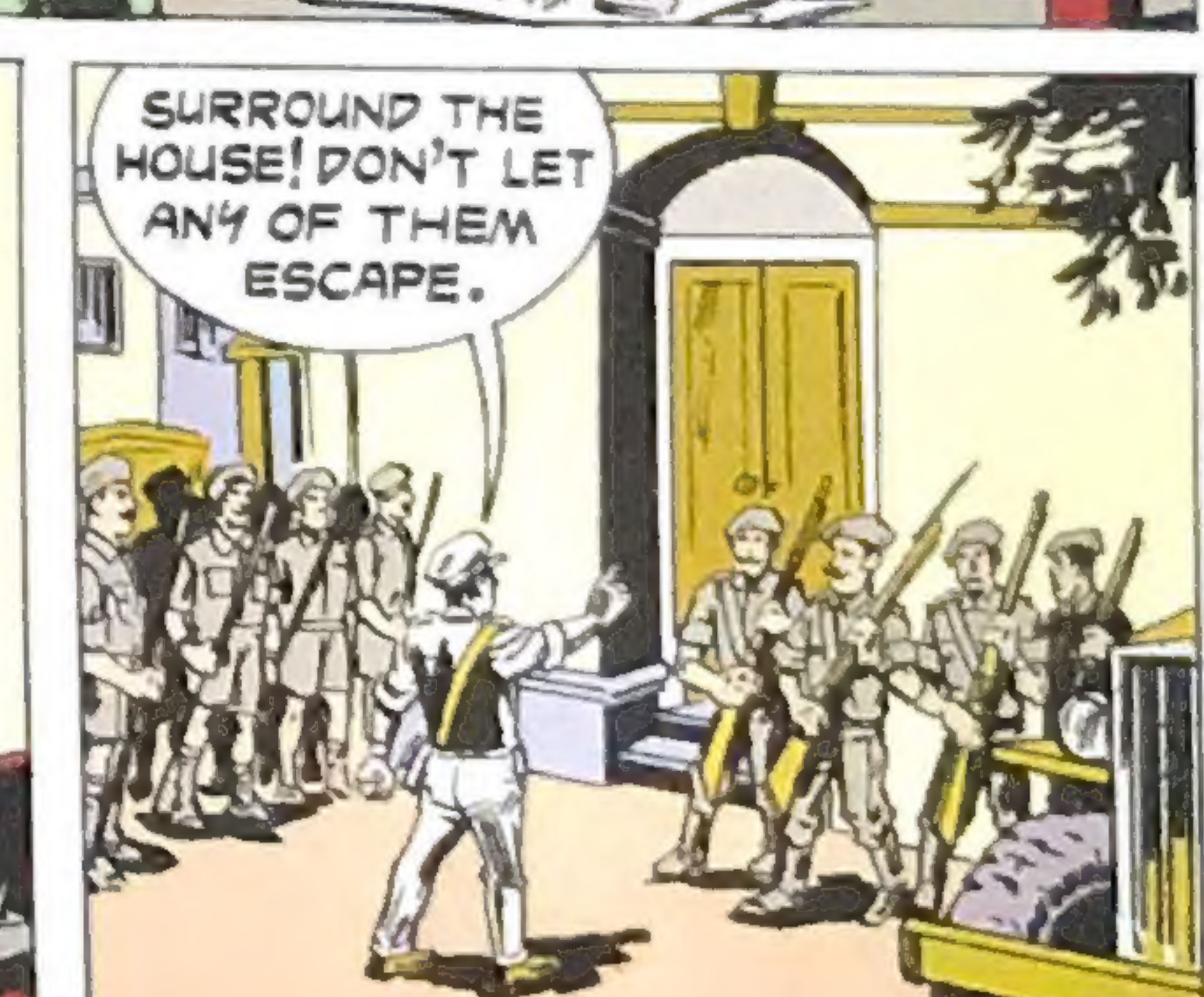
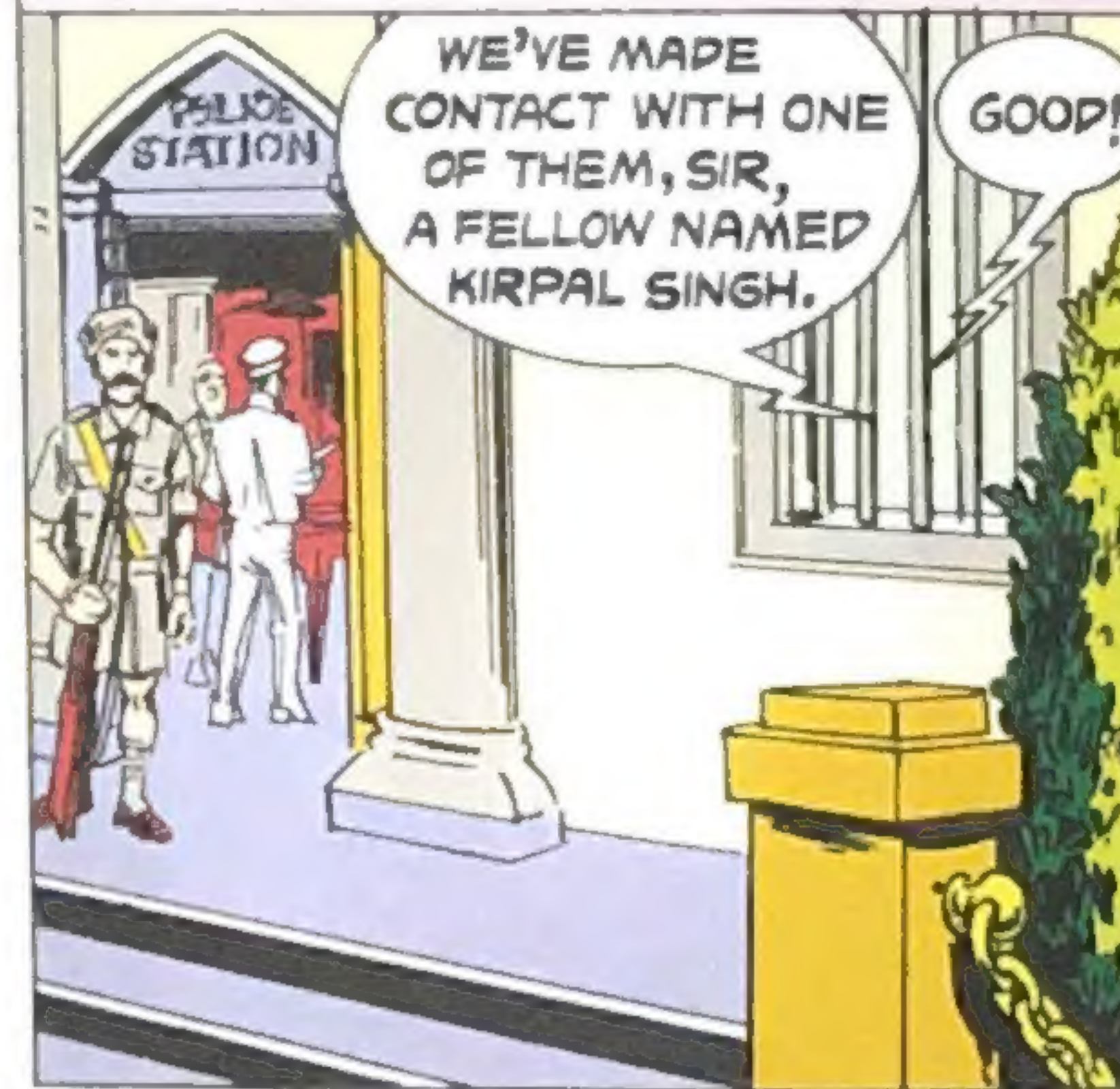




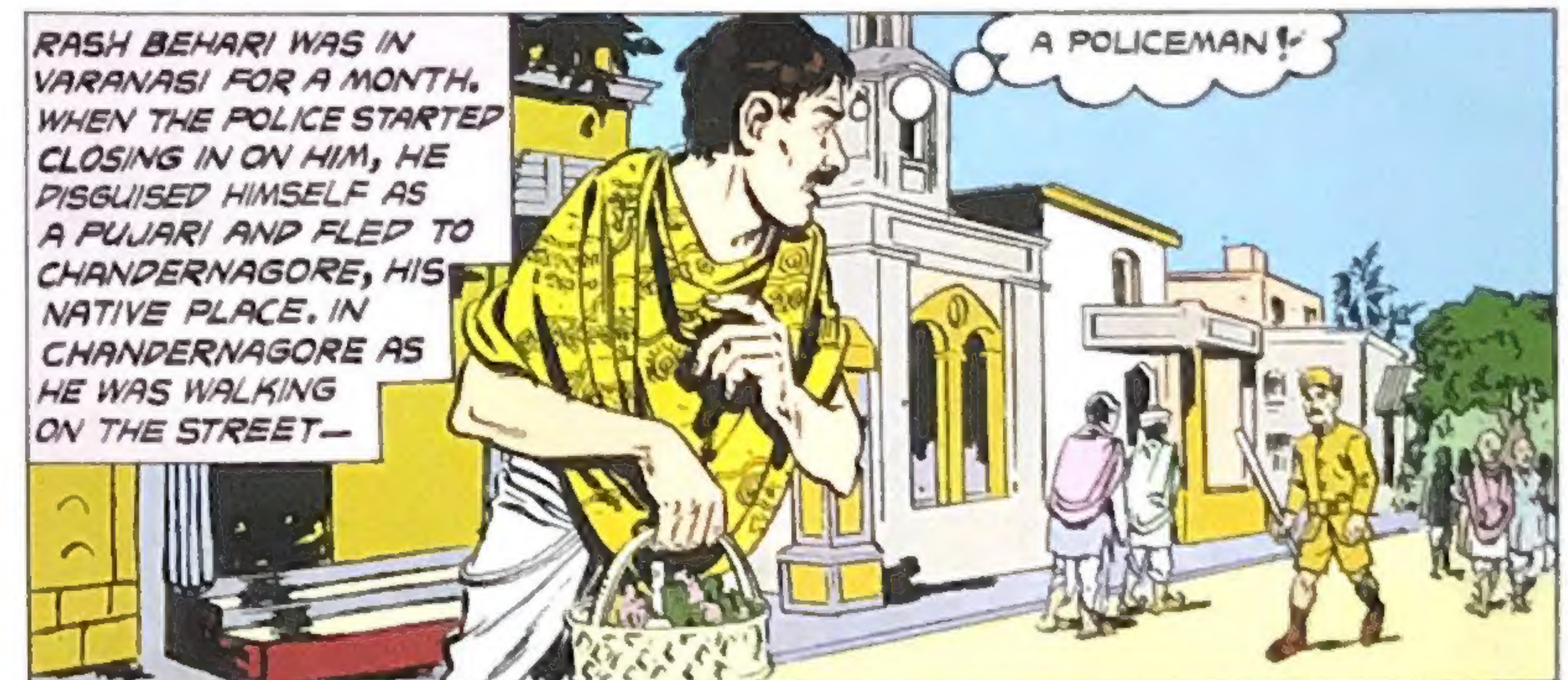
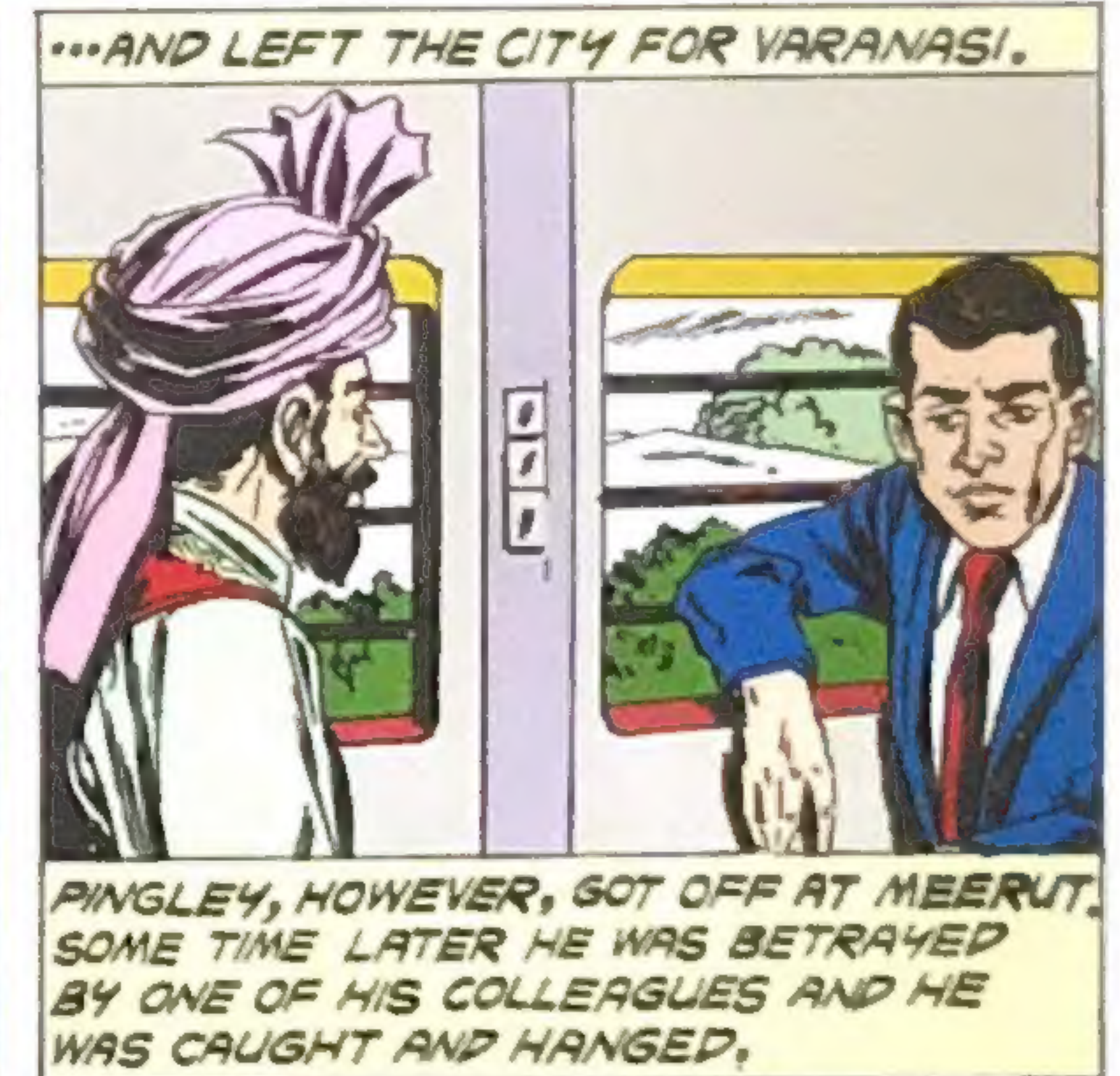
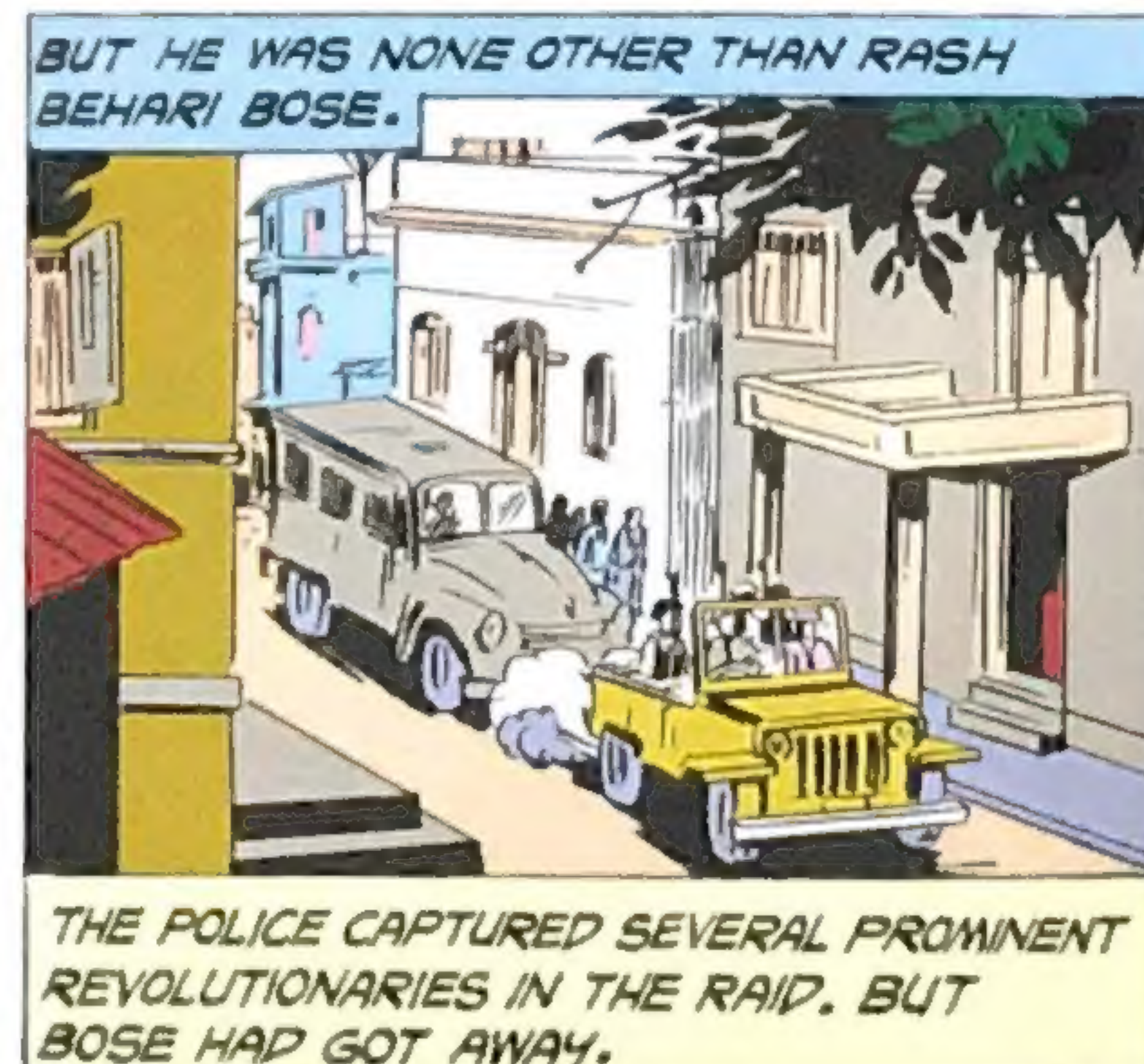
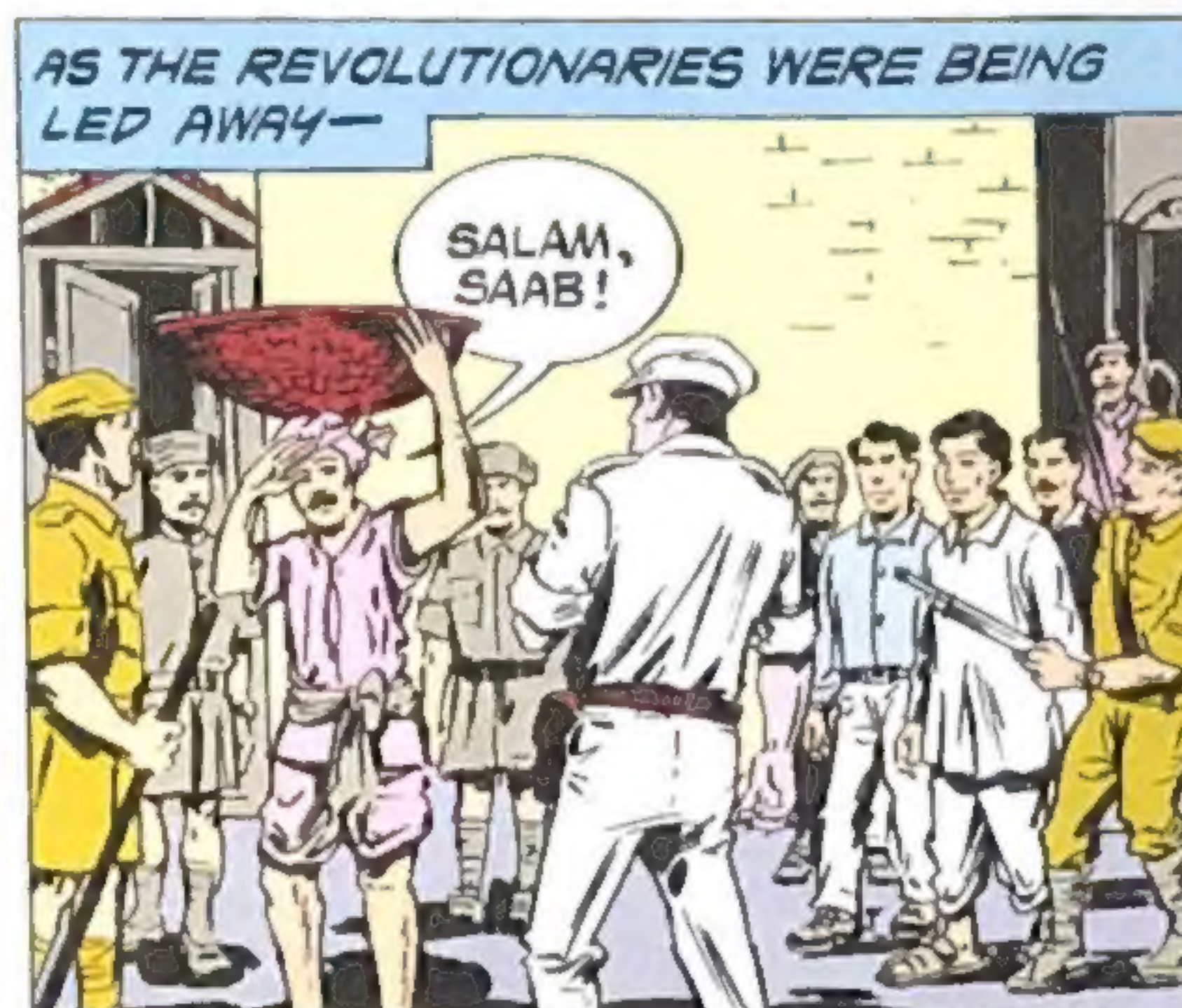
IT WAS DECIDED THAT RASH BEHARI SHOULD CONDUCT THE OPERATION FROM LAHORE. SO HE, PINGLEY AND SACHIN WENT TO LAHORE AND FOUND A SUITABLE HOUSE FROM WHICH HE COULD OPERATE.



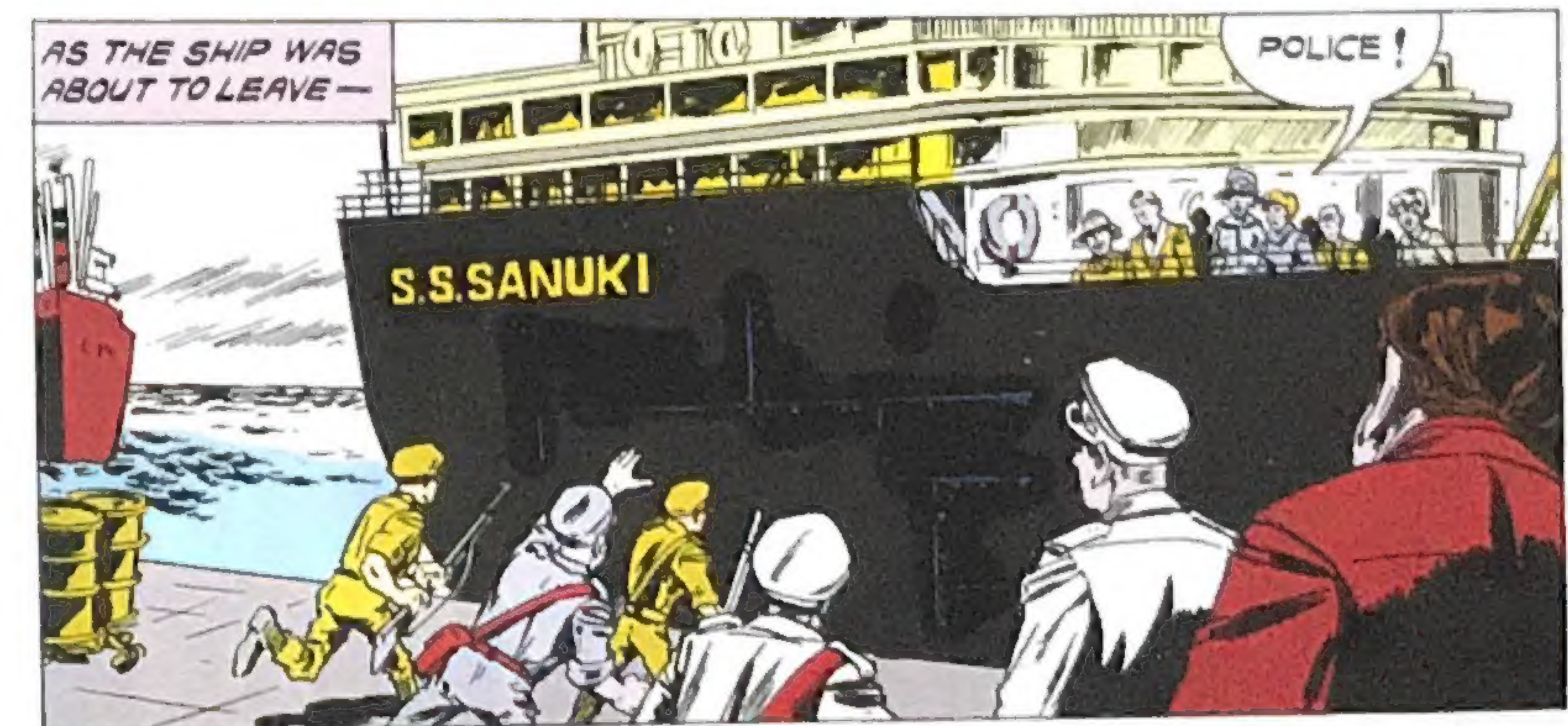
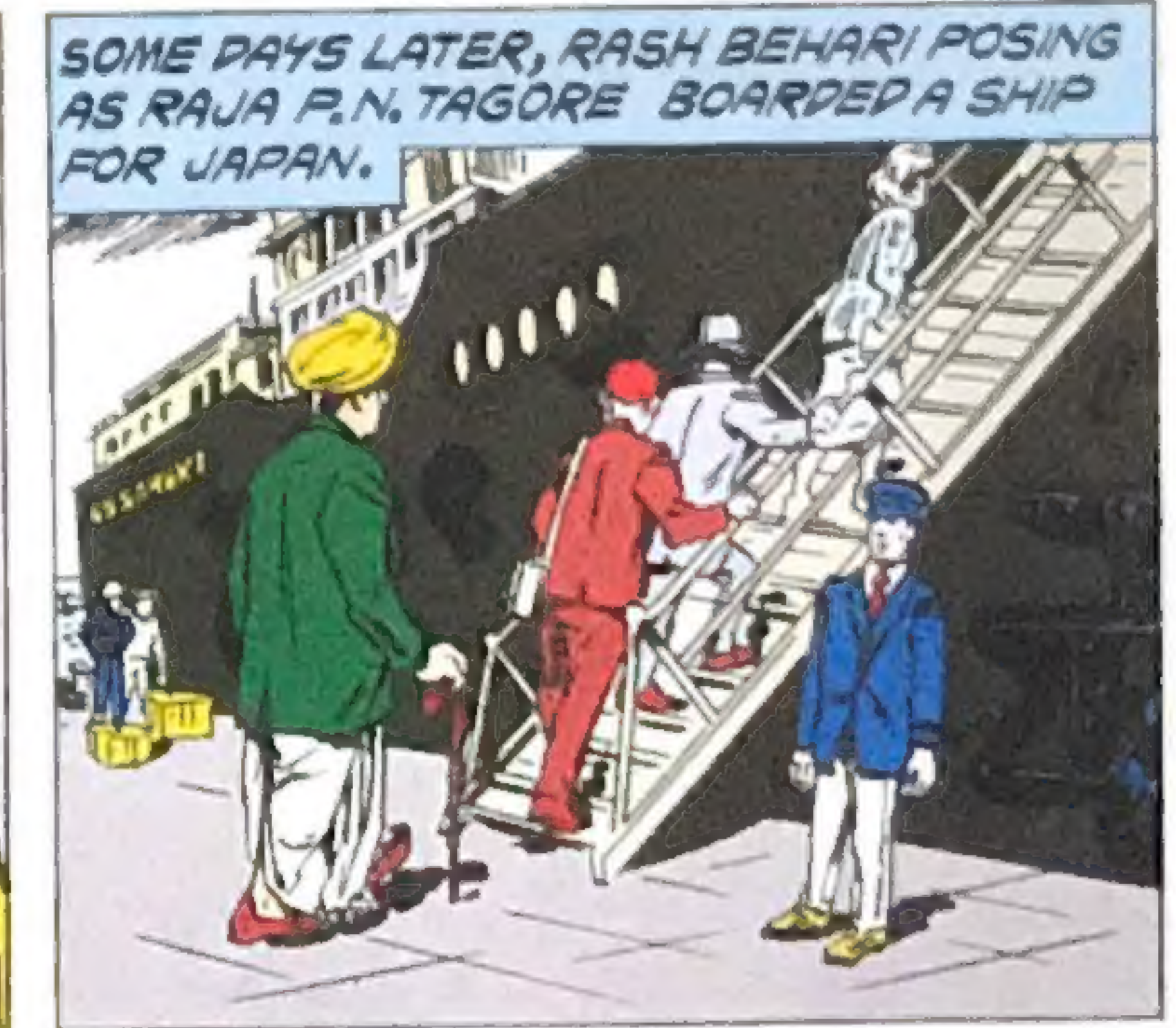
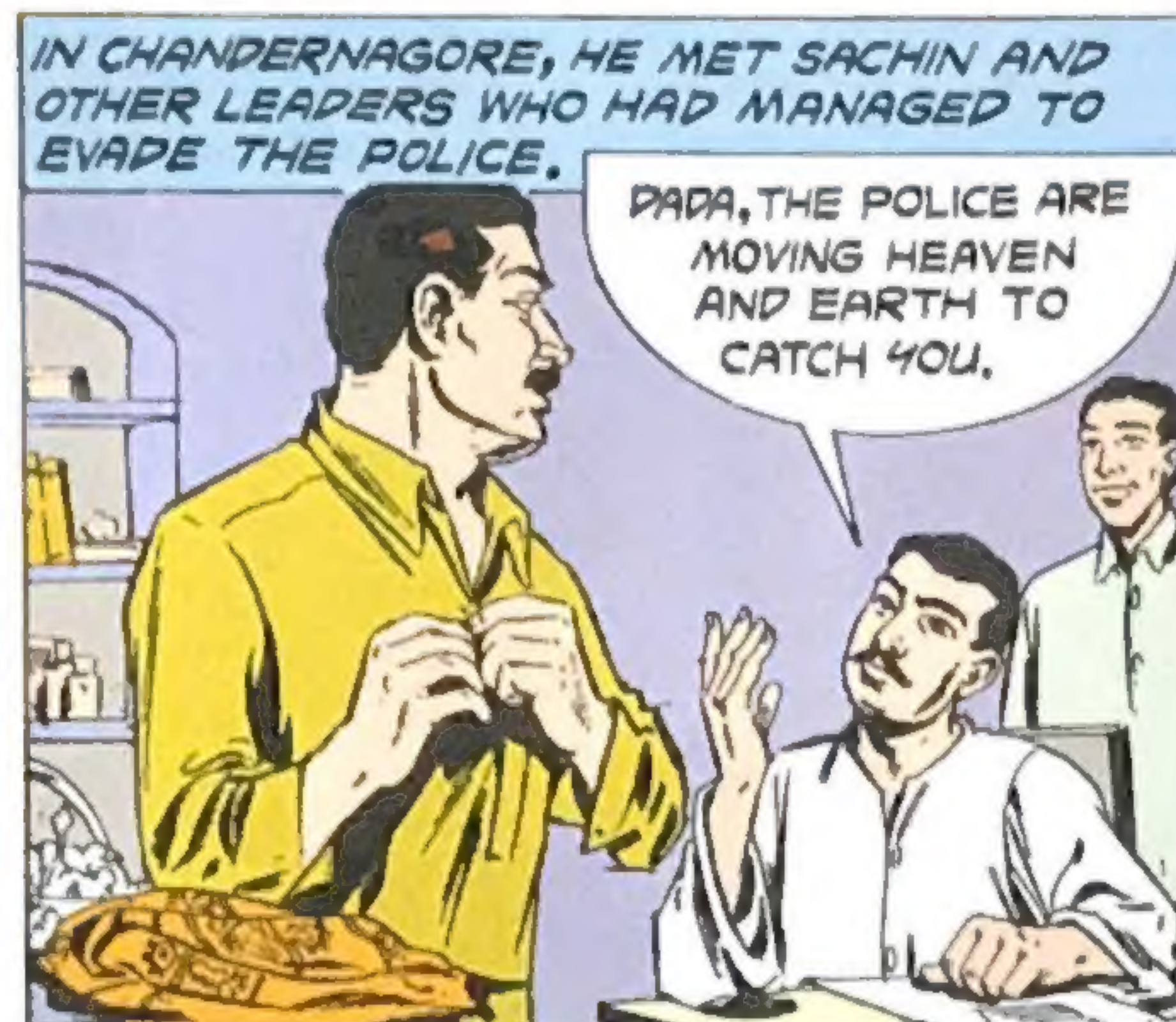
MEANWHILE THE BRITISH INTELLIGENCE WAS TRYING TO DISCOVER WHAT THE REVOLUTIONARIES WERE UP TO. FINALLY—



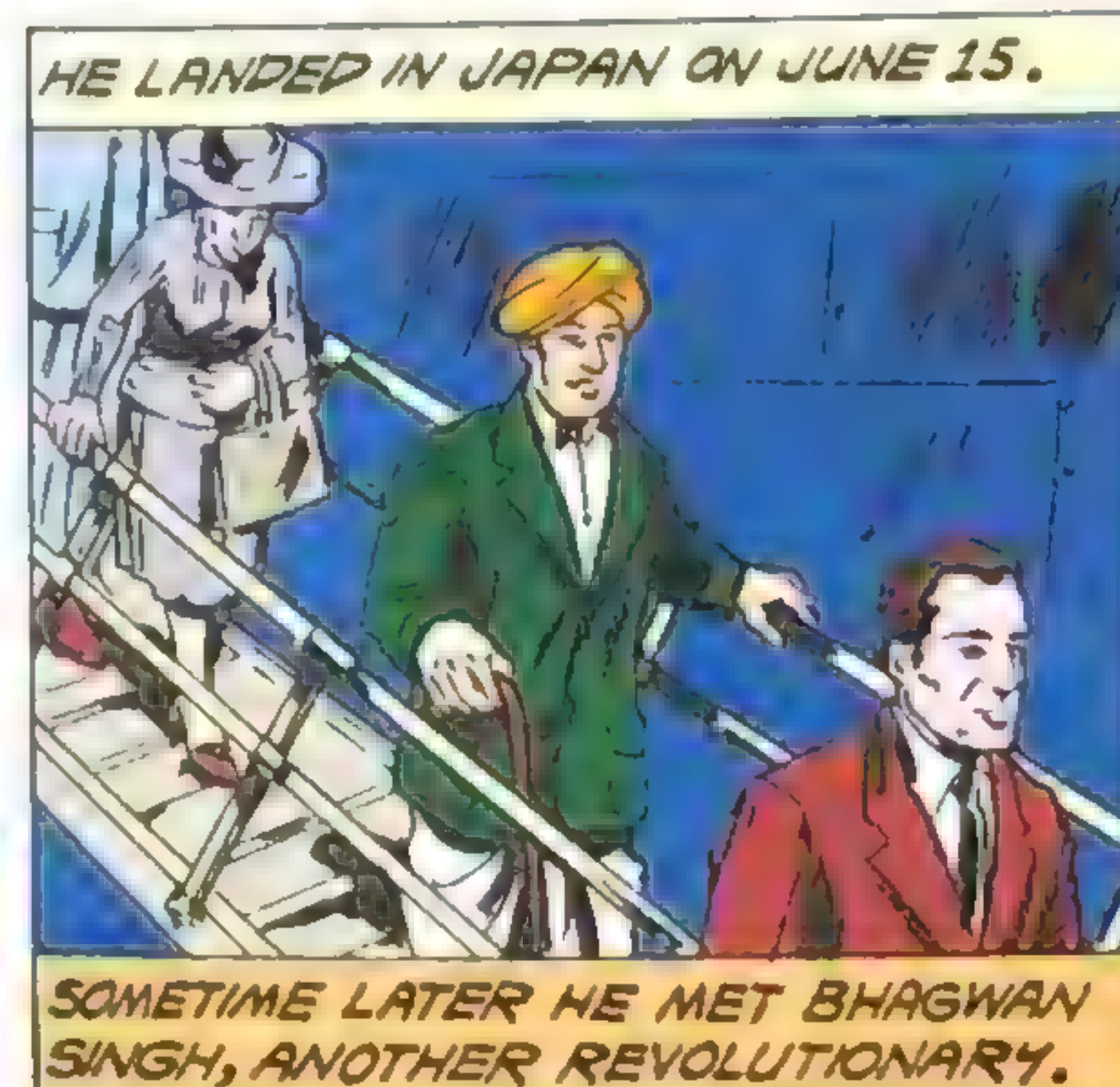
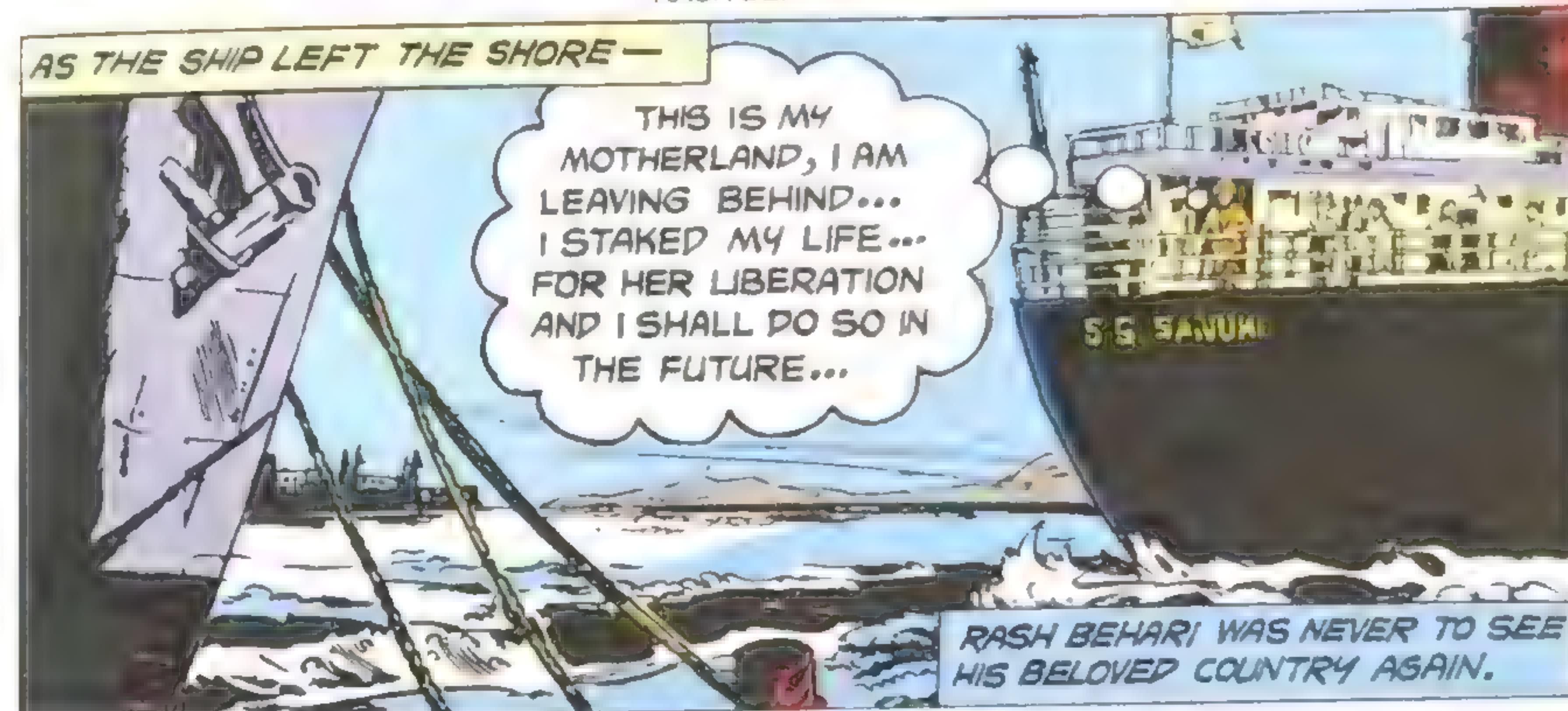








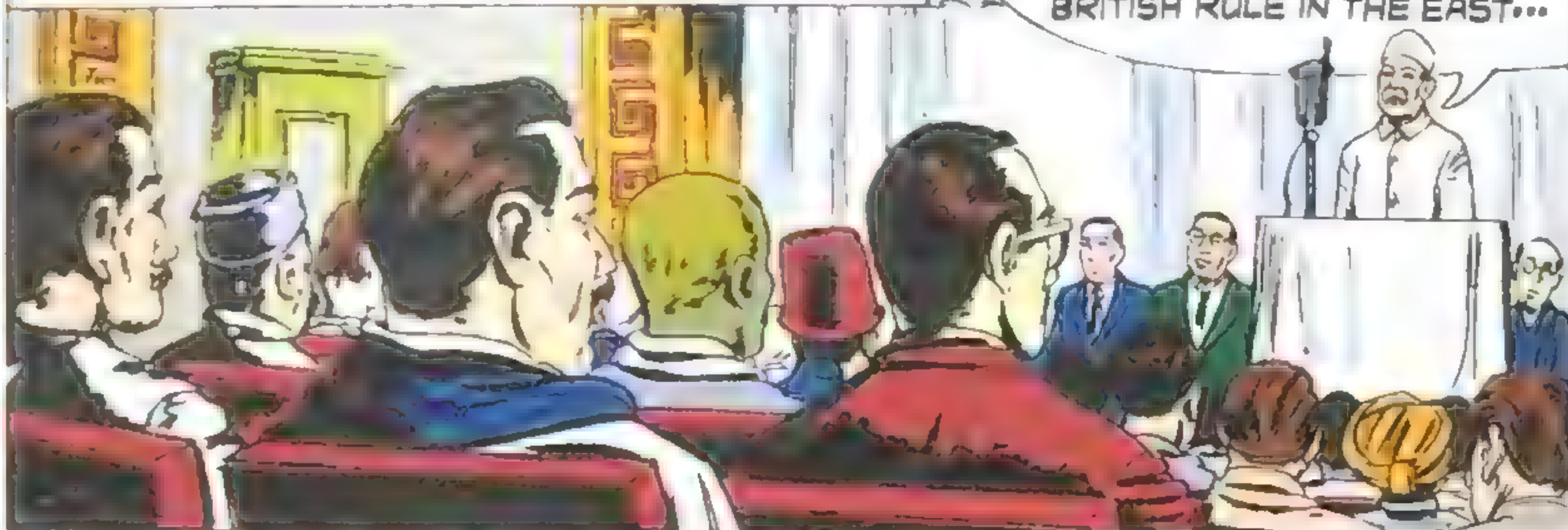






AS HE CONTINUED HIS EFFORTS TO SEND ARMS TO INDIA, HE BEGAN TO MAKE HIS PRESENCE FELT IN JAPAN. ON NOVEMBER 15, 1915, ALONG WITH LALA LAJPATRAI HE ORGANISED A POLITICAL MEETING IN TOKYO. THE LALA LASHED OUT AT THE BRITISH.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WE OF THE ANCIENT LAND OF INDIA MEET IN THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN TO TELL THE WORLD ABOUT THE CRUELTY AND INJUSTICE OF BRITISH RULE IN THE EAST...



AND WHEN HIS TURN CAME TO SPEAK, RASH BEHARI DID NOT RESTRAIN HIMSELF EITHER.



...WE HAVE SUFFERED LONG ENOUGH AT THE HANDS OF THE IMPERIALISTS. LET THERE NOW BE AN END...

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WAS ALARMED. IT PERSUADED JAPAN TO ISSUE AN EXTRADITION WARRANT AGAINST THE TWO INDIANS.

LALA LAJPATRAI FLED TO AMERICA. RASH BEHARI BOSE WENT INTO HIDING.



ONCE AGAIN HE BECAME A HUNTED MAN. THEN ONE DAY AS THE POLICE WERE CLOSING IN ON HIM—



GET IN.



WHO ARE YOU?

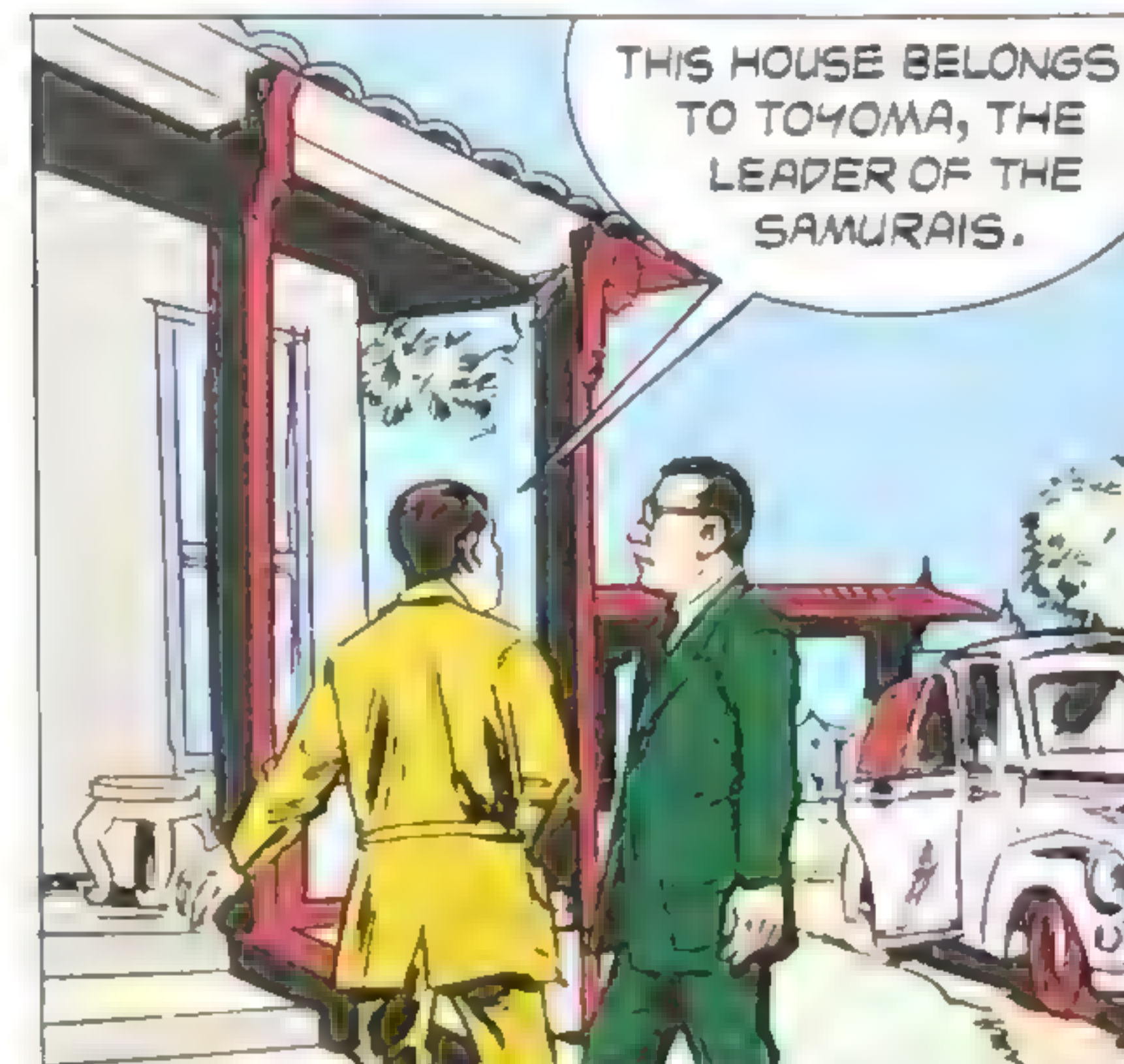
A FRIEND.

SOMETIME LATER, THE CAR DROVE INTO THE COURTYARD OF A SPACIOUS HOUSE.



WHY HAVE YOU BROUGHT ME HERE? THE POLICE HAVE SEEN US ENTER.

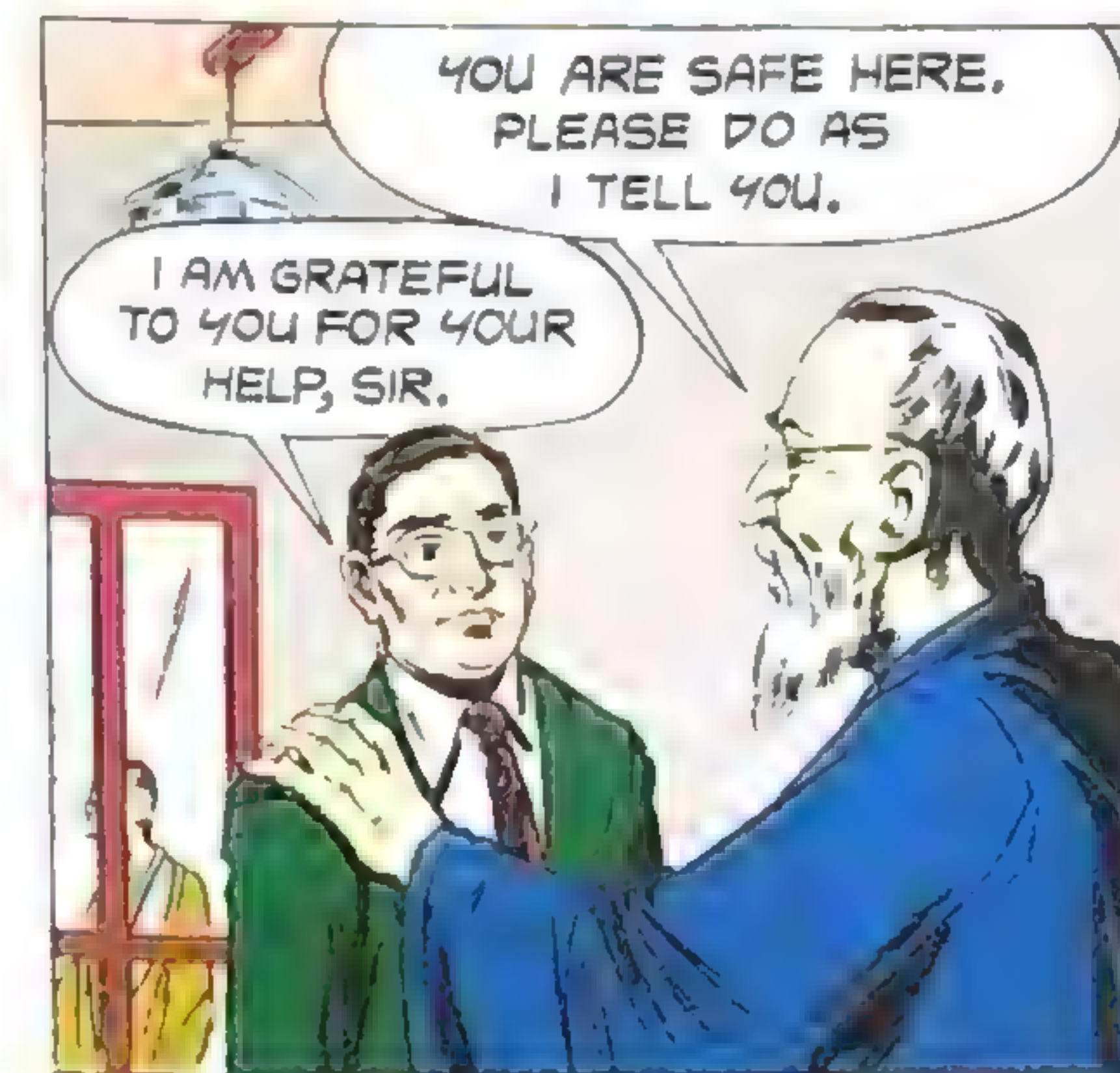
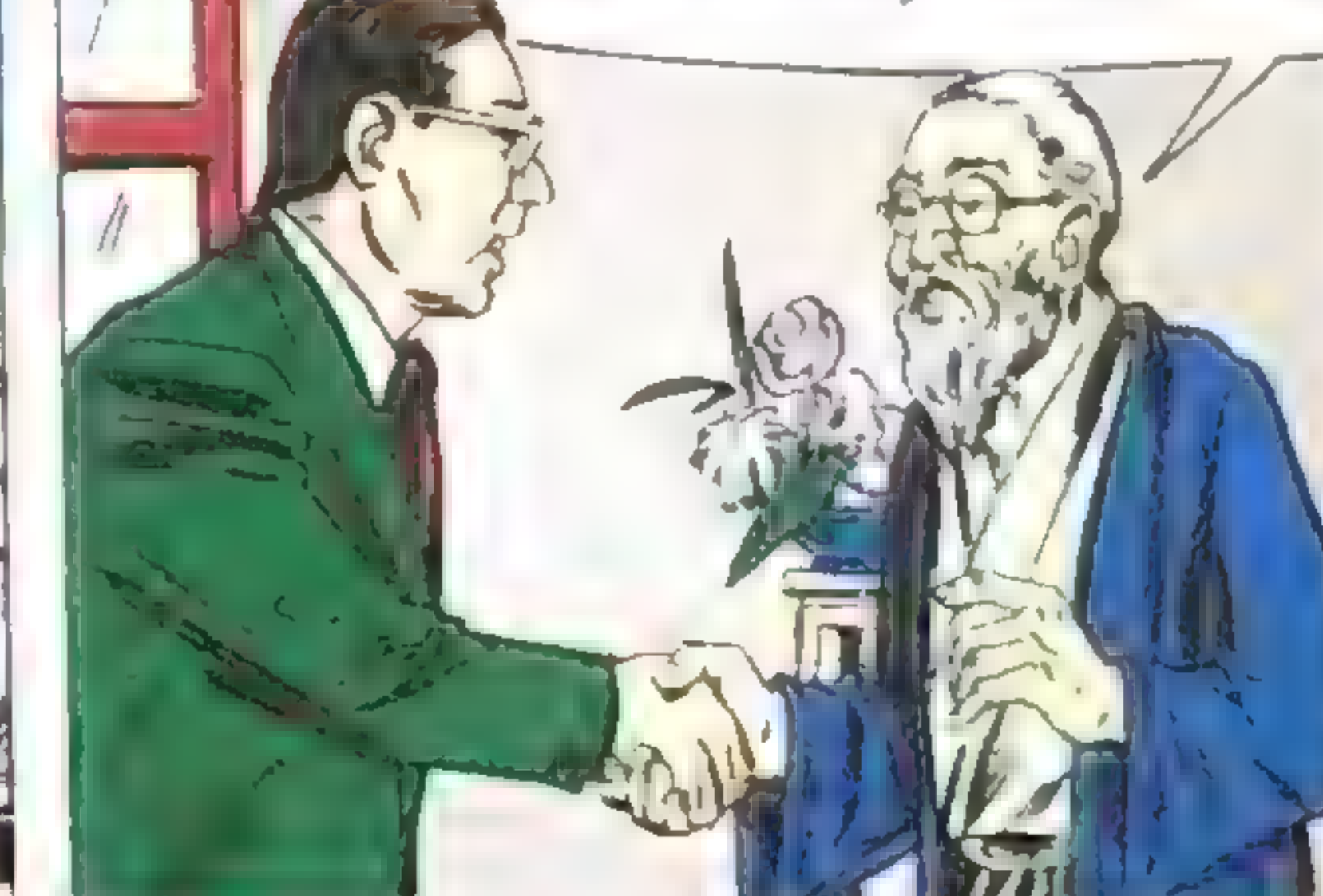
BUT THEY WON'T DARE TO FOLLOW.



THIS HOUSE BELONGS TO TOYOMA, THE LEADER OF THE SAMURAIS.

DR. TOYOMA WAS ONE OF THE MOST RESPECTED MEN IN JAPAN.

I HAVE GREAT SYMPATHY FOR THE FREEDOM MOVEMENT IN YOUR COUNTRY, YOUNG MAN.



YOU ARE SAFE HERE. PLEASE DO AS I TELL YOU.

I AM GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR YOUR HELP, SIR.

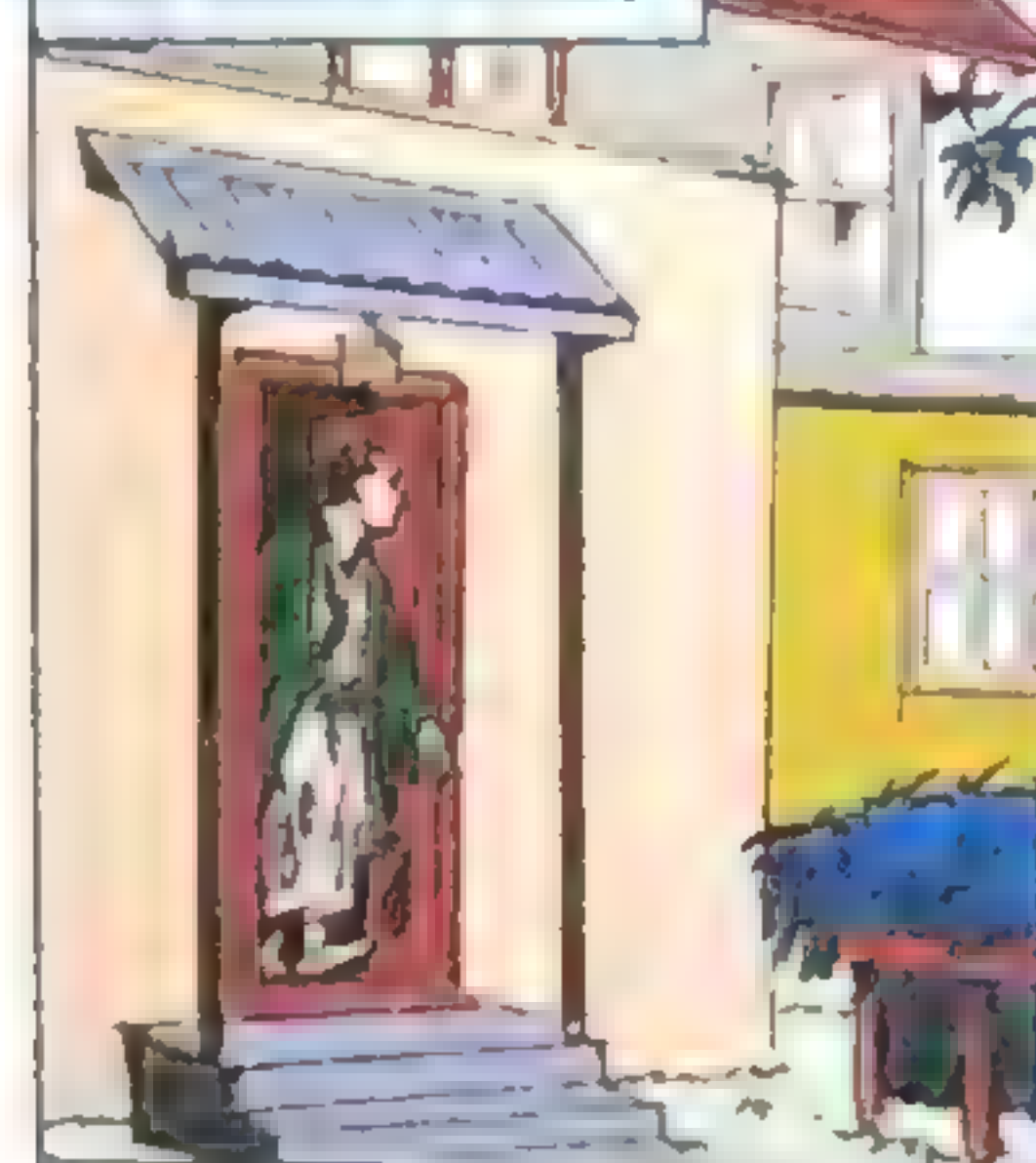


THIS IS AIZO SOMA. ONE OF MY MOST TRUSTED MEN.

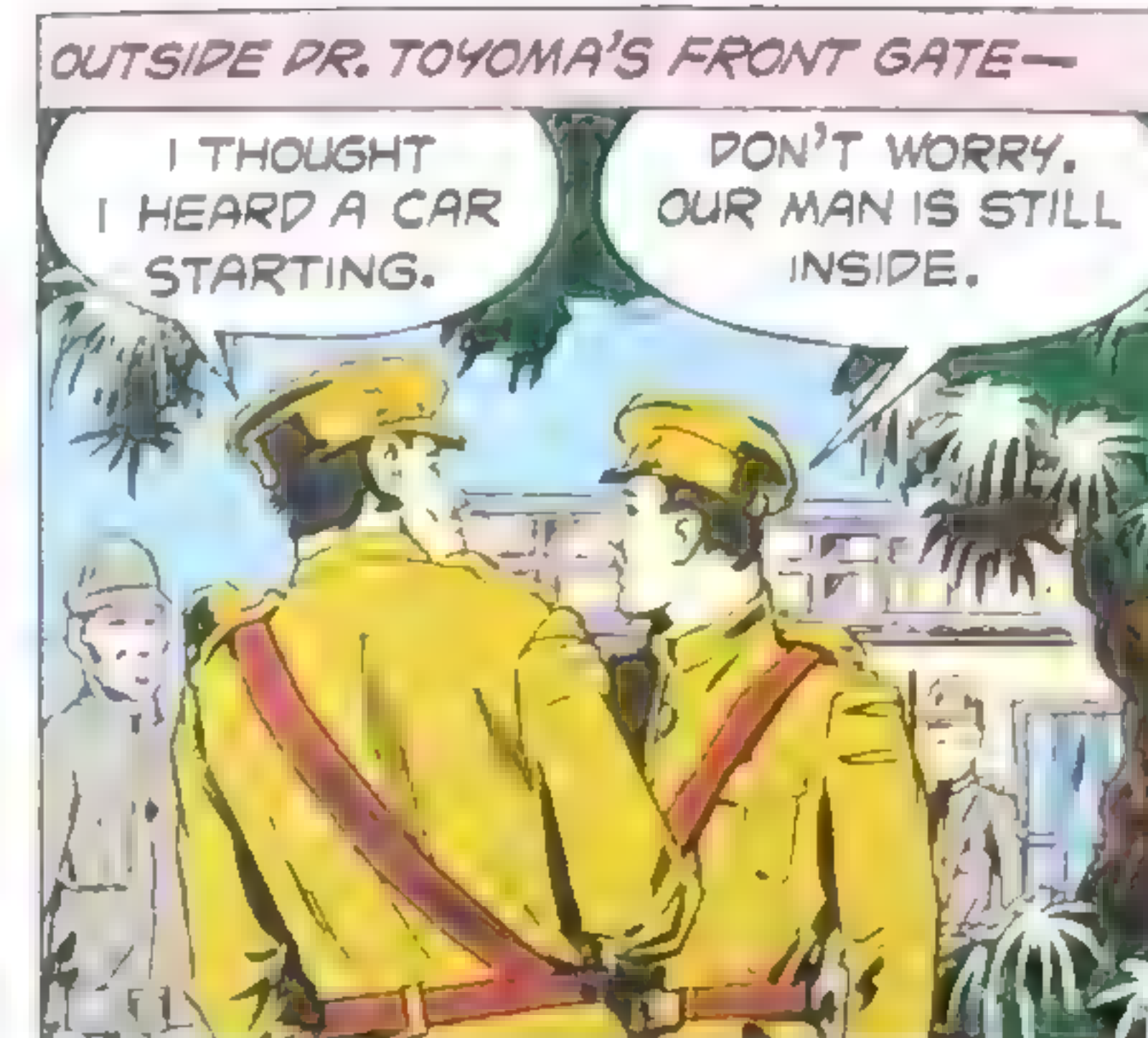




A LITTLE LATER, WEARING JAPANESE CLOTHES, RASH BEHARI WALKED OUT OF DR. TOYOMA'S HOUSE THROUGH THE BACK DOOR.



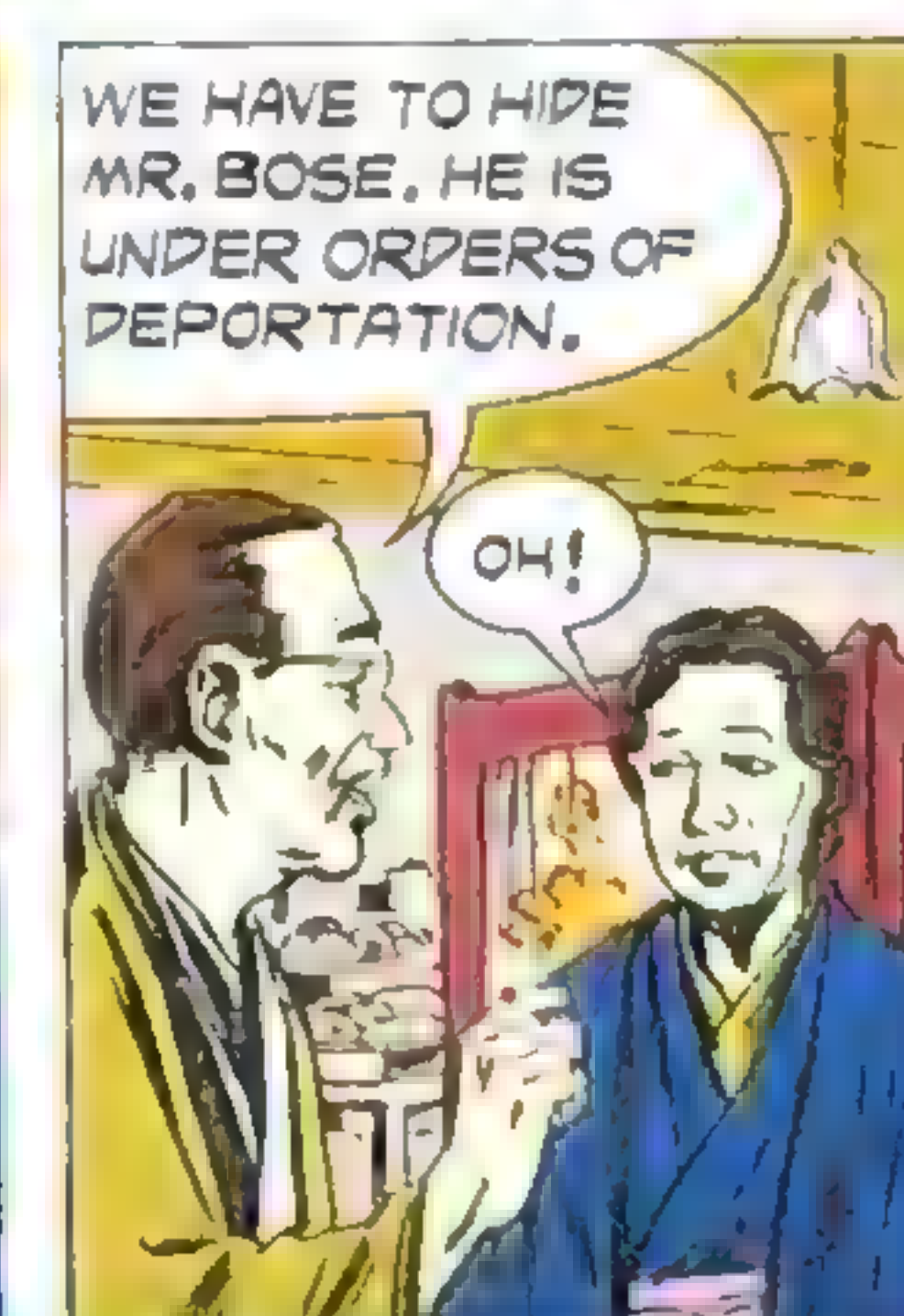
...AND LEFT THAT HOUSE TOO THE SAME WAY. SOMA WAS WAITING FOR HIM THERE WITH A CAR.



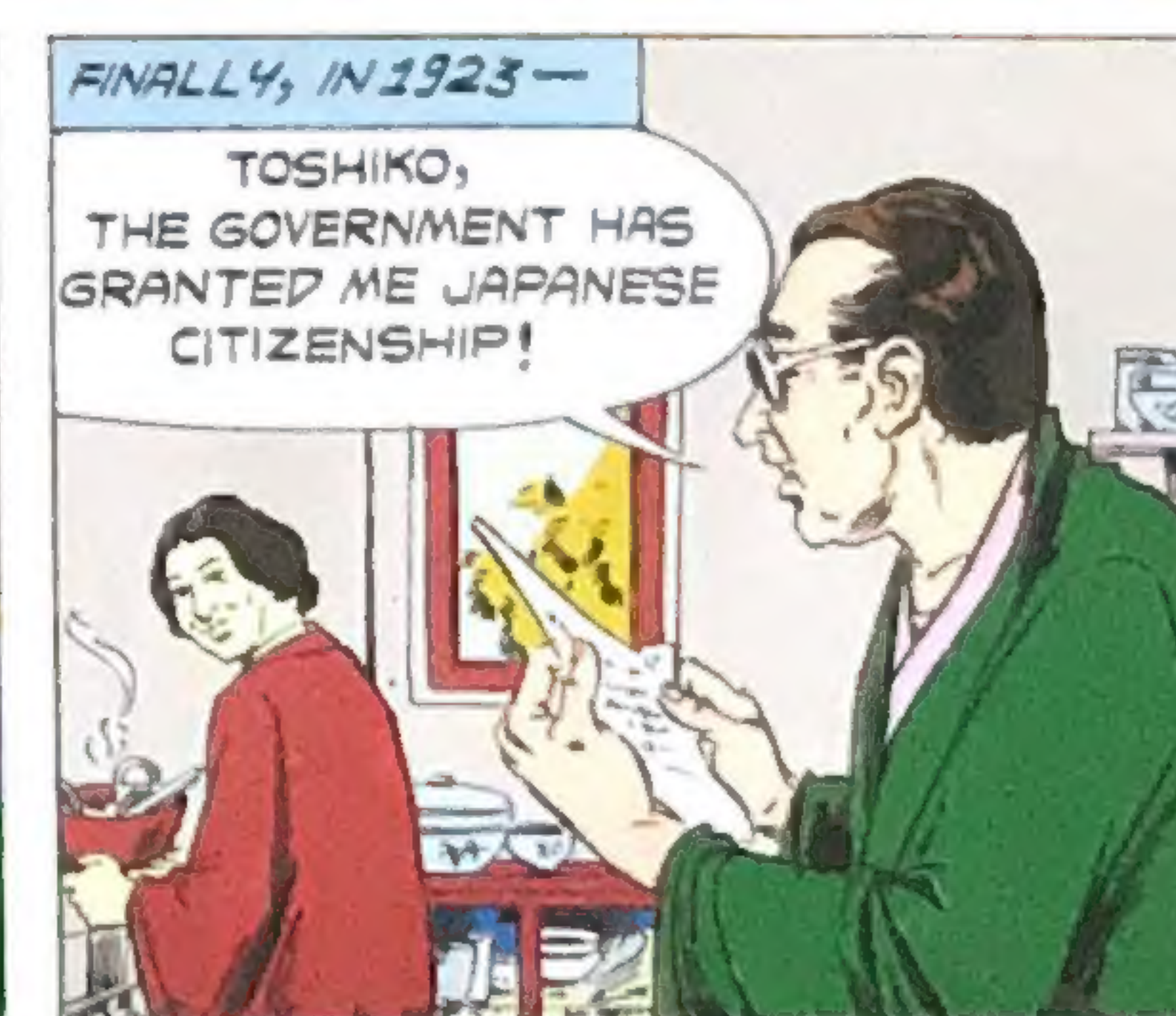
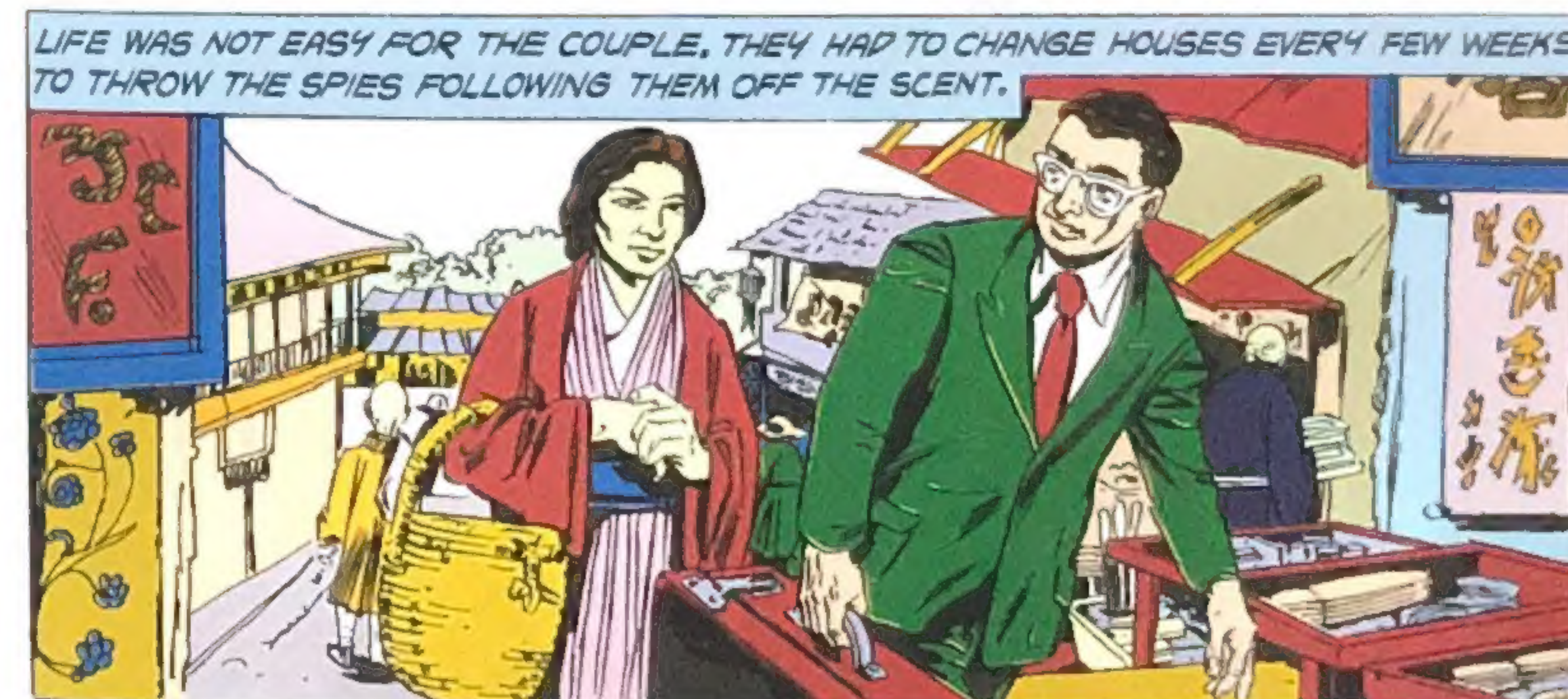
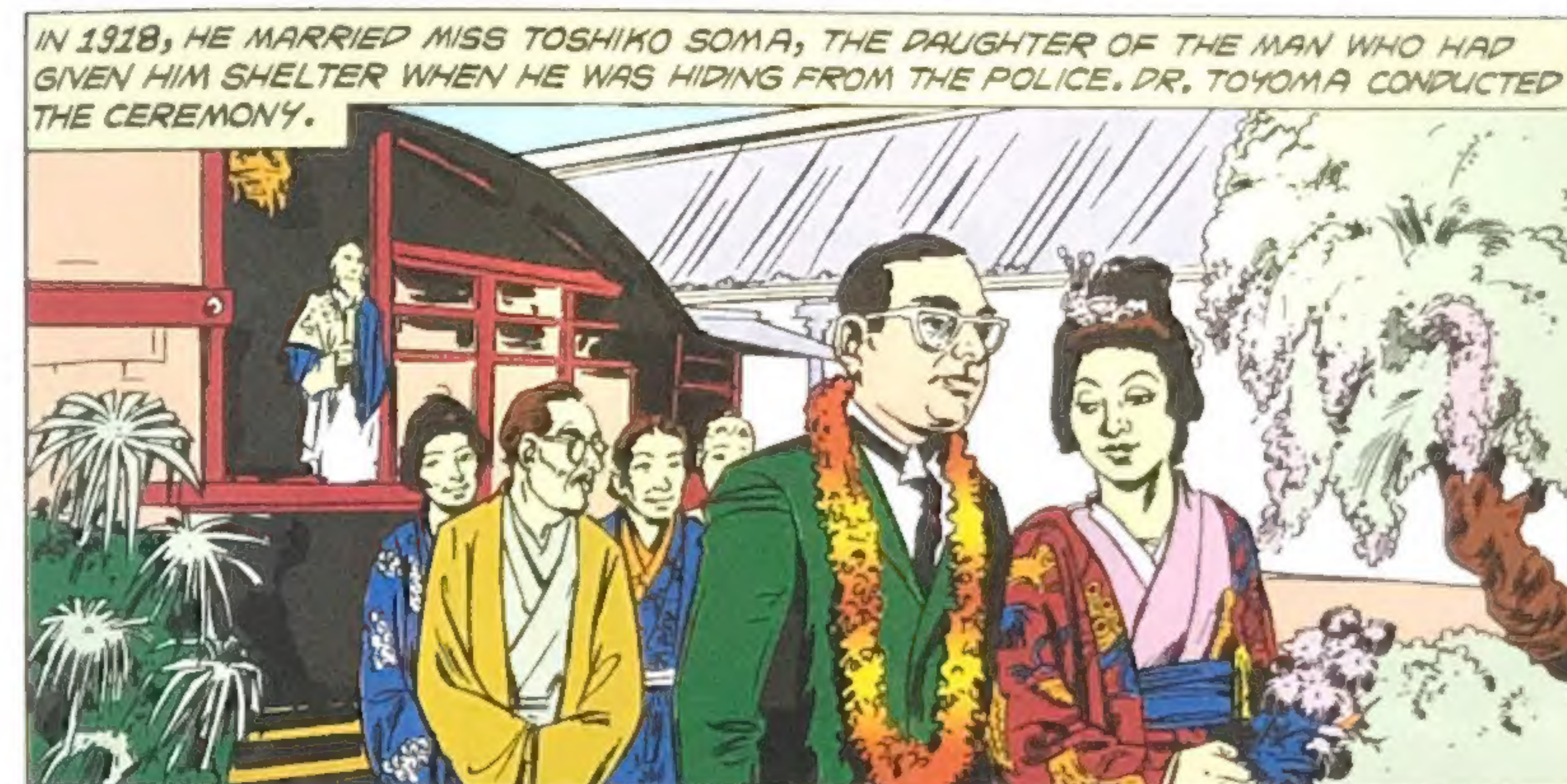
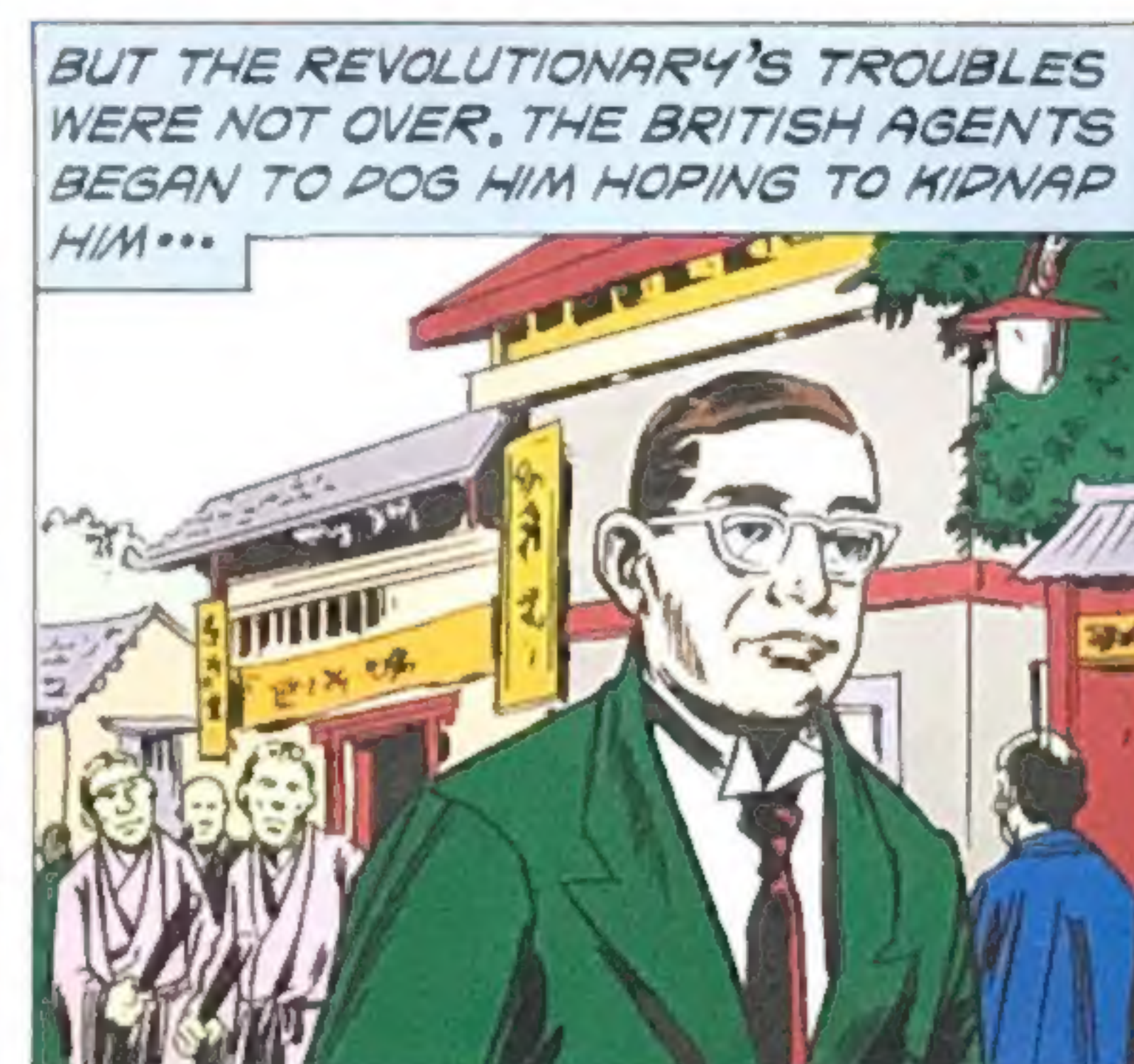
THE JAPANESE POLICE, LIKE THEIR BRITISH COUNTERPARTS, WERE SOON TO REALISE THAT RASH BEHARI WAS NOT AN EASY MAN TO CATCH.



EVEN BEFORE IT DAWNED ON THE POLICEMEN OUTSIDE DR. TOYOMA'S HOUSE THAT THEY HAD BEEN FOOLED, RASH BEHARI HAD ALIGHTED IN FRONT OF A BAKERY OWNED BY MR. SOMA.





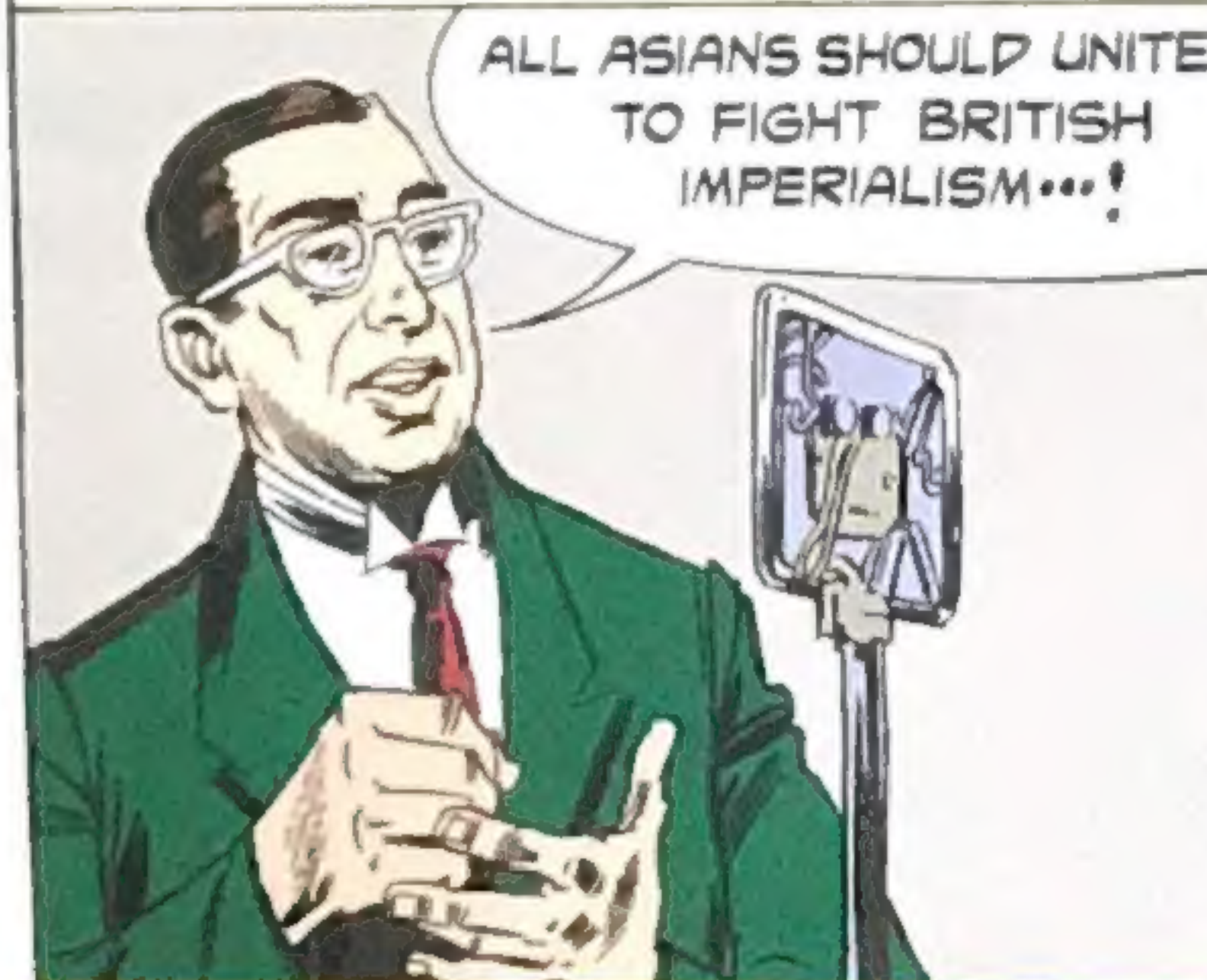






TOSHIKO, HOWEVER, WAS WORN OUT BY THE TENSIONS AND HARDSHIPS SHE HAD TO SUFFER DURING THEIR YEARS OF HIDING. SHE DIED TWO YEARS LATER, LEAVING BEHIND TWO CHILDREN.

HIS THEME WAS INVARIABLY THE SAME. THE ONENESS OF THE ASIAN PEOPLE.



IN 1924, HE FOUNDED THE INDIAN INDEPENDENCE LEAGUE. THE PURPOSE OF THE LEAGUE WAS TO PROMOTE THE CAUSE OF INDIAN INDEPENDENCE.

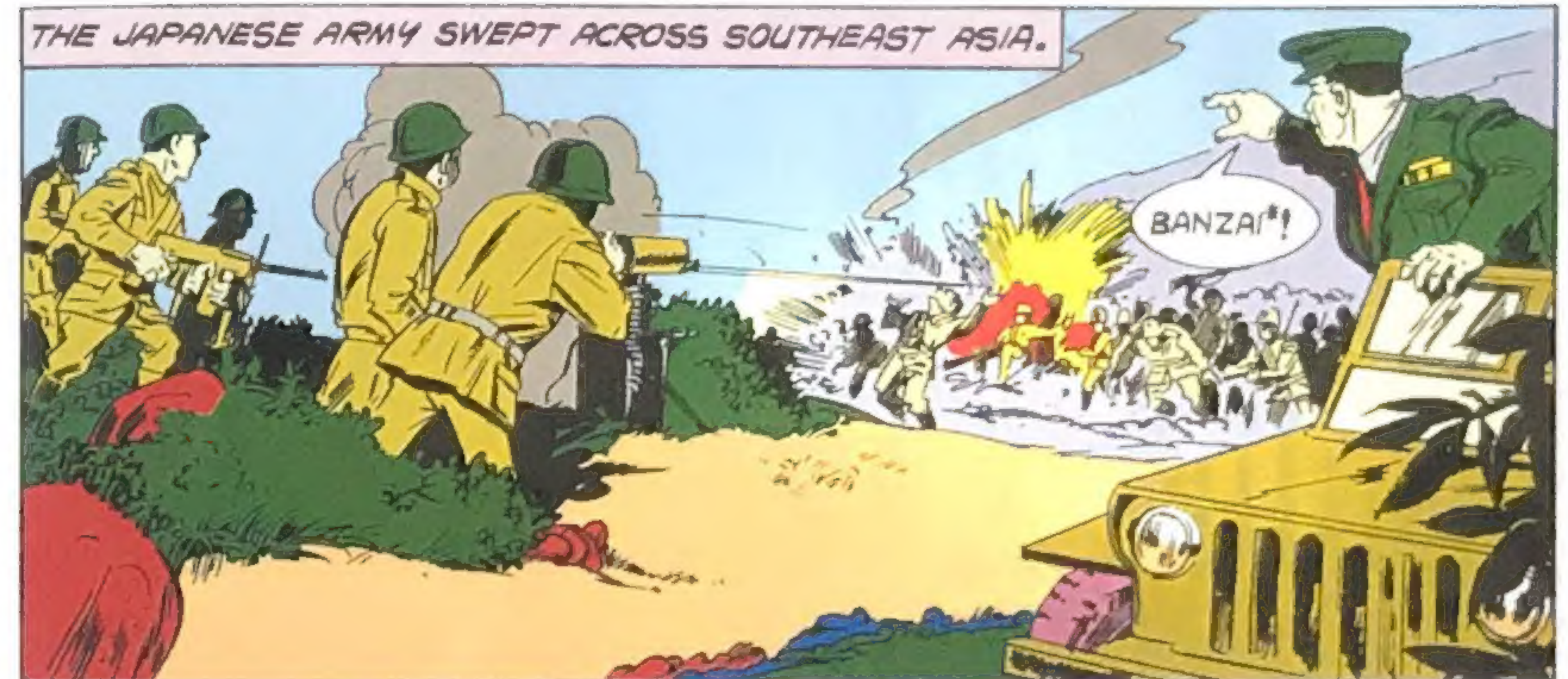
RASH BEHARI ENTERED JAPANESE PUBLIC LIFE. HE HAD MASTERED JAPANESE IN THE FIRST FEW MONTHS OF HIS STAY IN JAPAN AND NOW HE BEGAN TO ADDRESS MEETINGS, GIVE LECTURES AND WRITE ARTICLES IN THAT LANGUAGE. THE JAPANESE BEGAN TO CALL HIM 'SENSEI' OR TEACHER.



HE WAS STILL CARRYING ON THE FIGHT SEVENTEEN YEARS LATER WHEN JAPAN ENTERED THE SECOND WORLD WAR ON THE SIDE OF GERMANY.



THE JAPANESE ARMY SWEEPED ACROSS SOUTHEAST ASIA.



THIS WAS THE OPPORTUNITY RASH BEHARI WAS WAITING FOR. HE APPROACHED THE JAPANESE ARMY AUTHORITIES.

JAPAN AND INDIA NOW HAVE A COMMON ENEMY—BRITAIN.



GIVE ME PERMISSION TO ORGANISE INDIANS IN EAST ASIA INTO AN ANTI-BRITISH ARMY.

YOU MAY GO AHEAD.



OUR GOALS ARE THE SAME. LET US WORK TOGETHER.

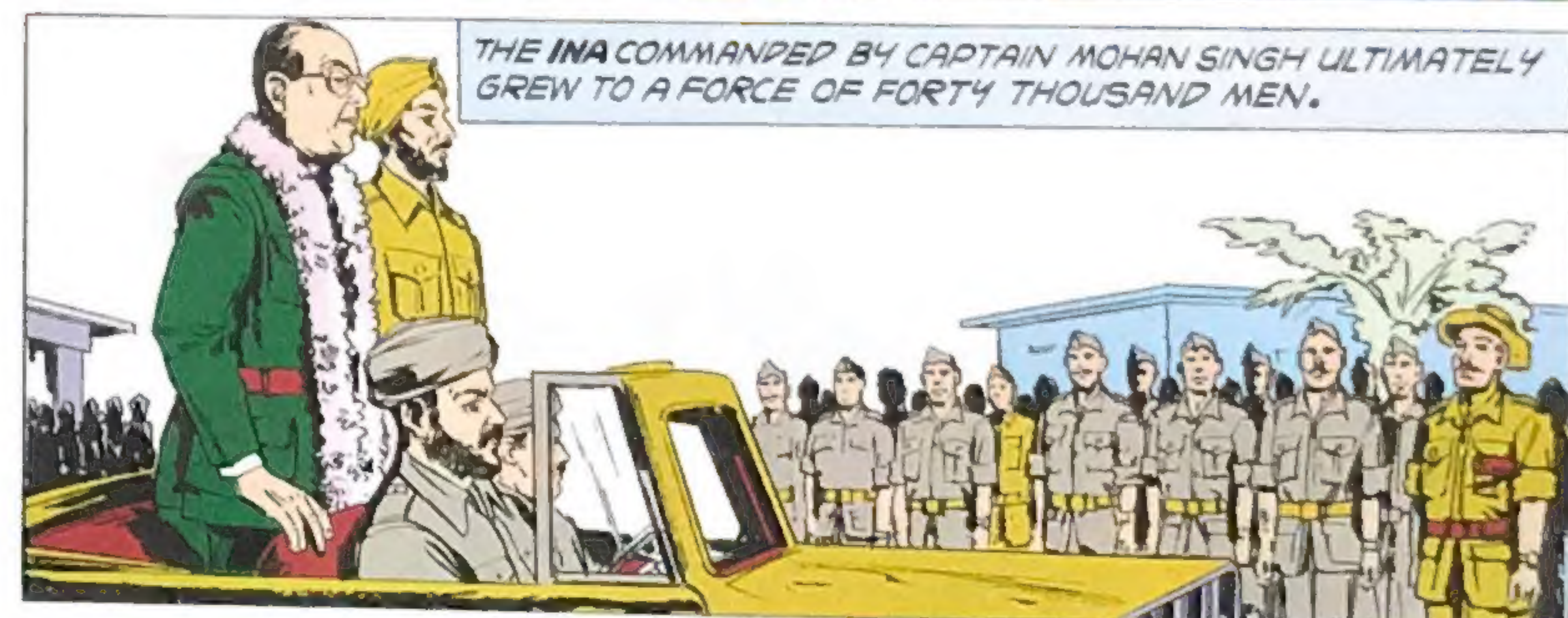
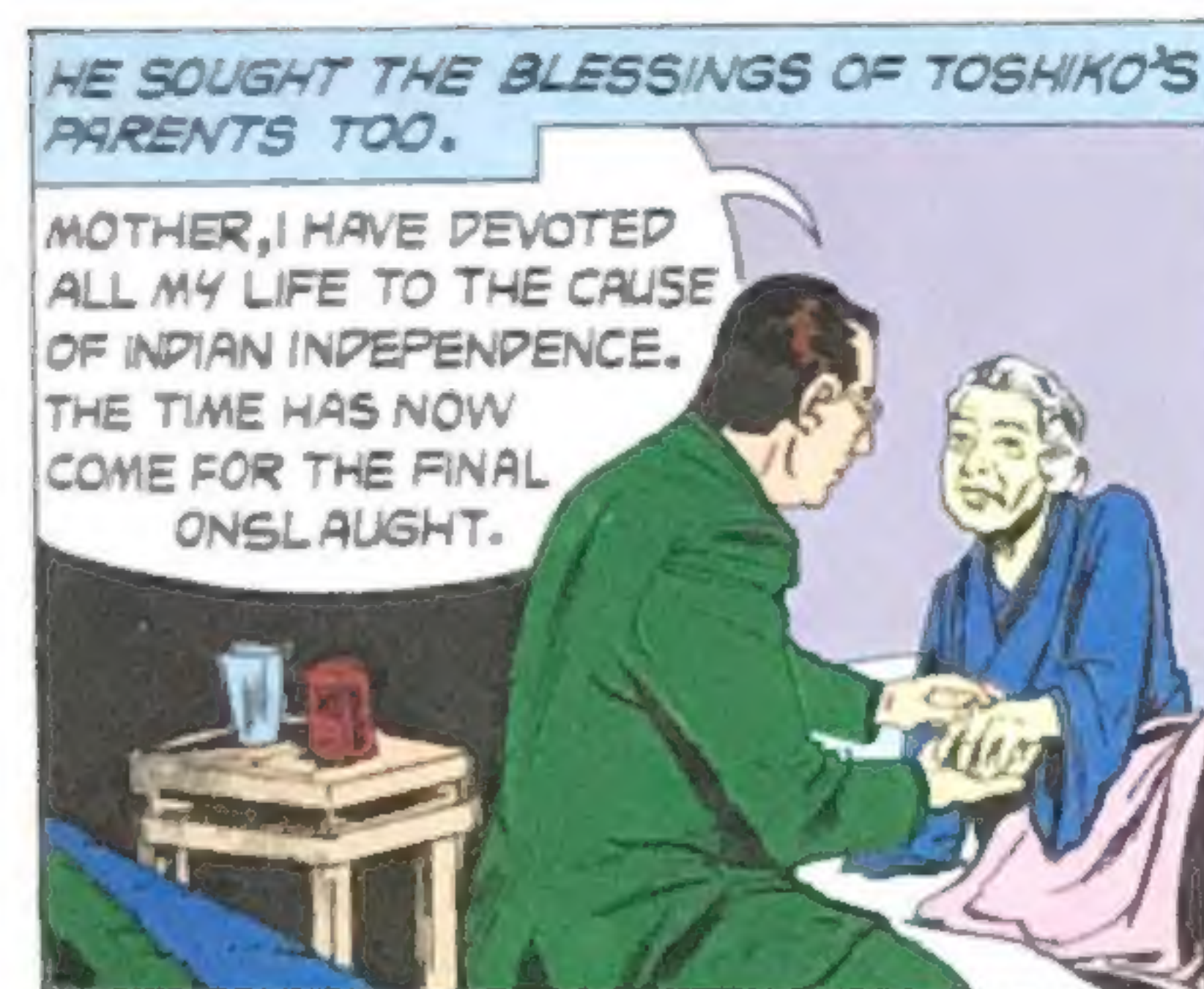
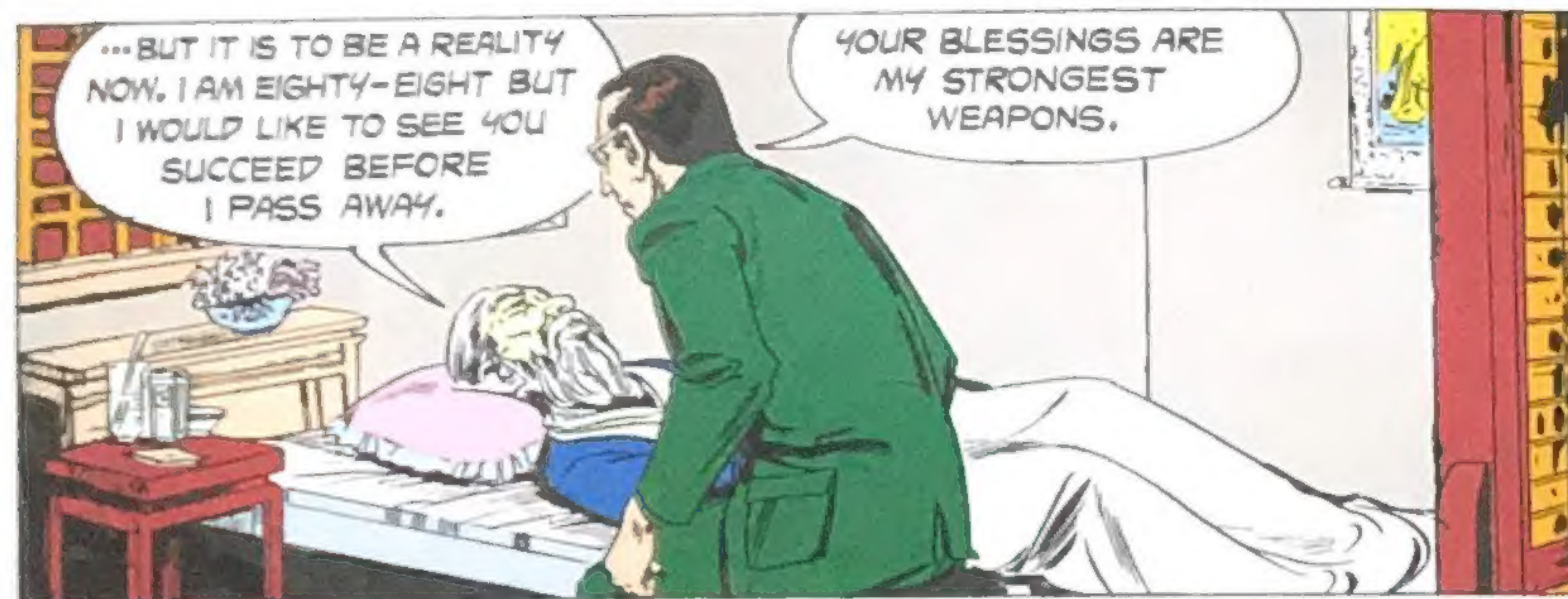


BEFORE SETTING OUT ON THE GREAT ADVENTURE, HE WENT TO SEE HIS OLD FRIEND, DR. TOYOMA, WHO WAS ON HIS DEATH-BED.

SENSEI, THE TIME HAS COME AT LAST... INDEPENDENCE FOR INDIA WAS A DREAM FOR A LONG TIME...







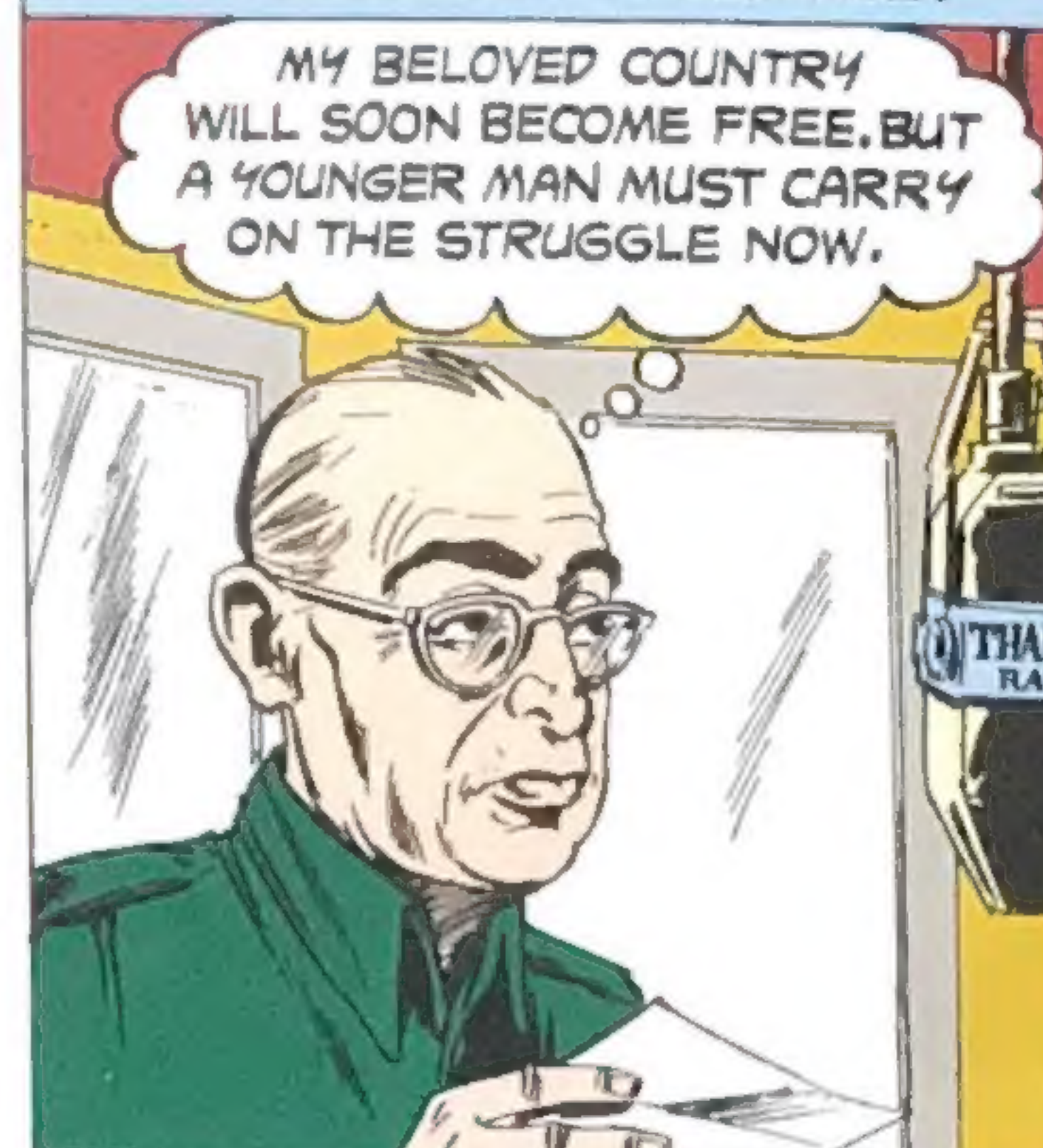


ON JANUARY 26, 1943, HE REMINDED HIS COUNTRYMEN OF THE HISTORIC IMPORTANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY, AGAIN IN A BROADCAST.

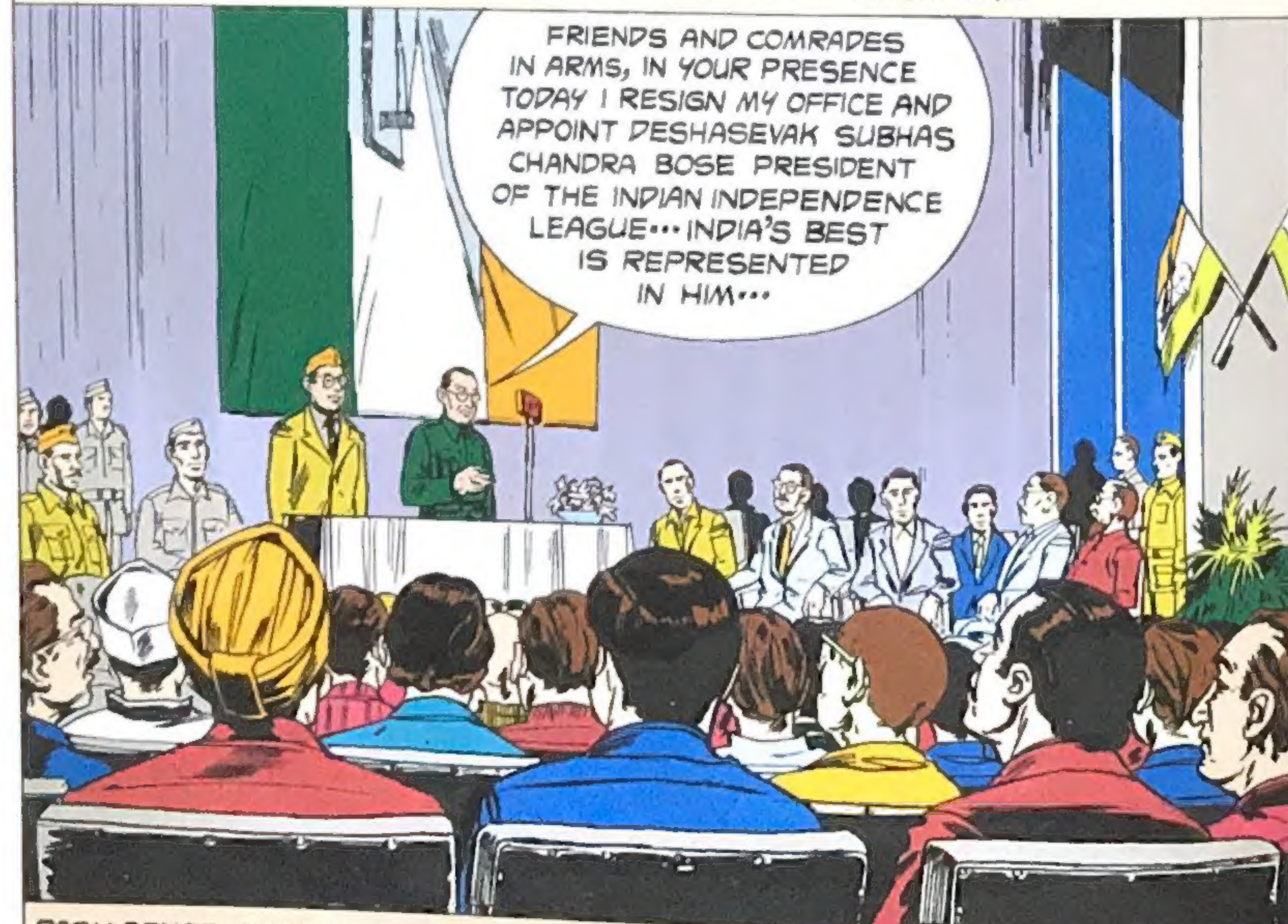


...ON JANUARY 26, 1930, THE INDIAN NATION UNFURLED THE BANNER OF ANTI-BRITISH REVOLUTION. INDIA STANDS ON THE THRESHOLD OF COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE TODAY — THE ANNIVERSARY OF OUR GRIM RESOLVE. VANDE MATARAM!

BUT NOW THE GREAT FIGHTER WAS SLOWING DOWN DUE TO OLD AGE.



FINALLY ON JULY 4, 1943, AT A MAMMOTH MEETING AT SINGAPORE —



RASH BEHARI BOSE DIED ON JANUARY 29, 1945. PAYING TRIBUTE TO HIM SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE SAID, "HE WAS THE FATHER OF THE INDIAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT IN EAST ASIA..."



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